



DC
COMICS™

[AFTERMATH]

S U P E R M A N
DOOMED

35

THE
NEW
52!

SUPERMAN™

ACTION
COMICS

Daily Planet
METROPOLIS' GREATEST NEWSPAPER
OCTOBER 1, 2014
ESTABLISHED 1887

VOLUME LXXVI No. 35

WHO NEEDS SUPERMAN?



DCCOMICS.COM

PAK
KOLINS
CIFUENTES
QUINTANA

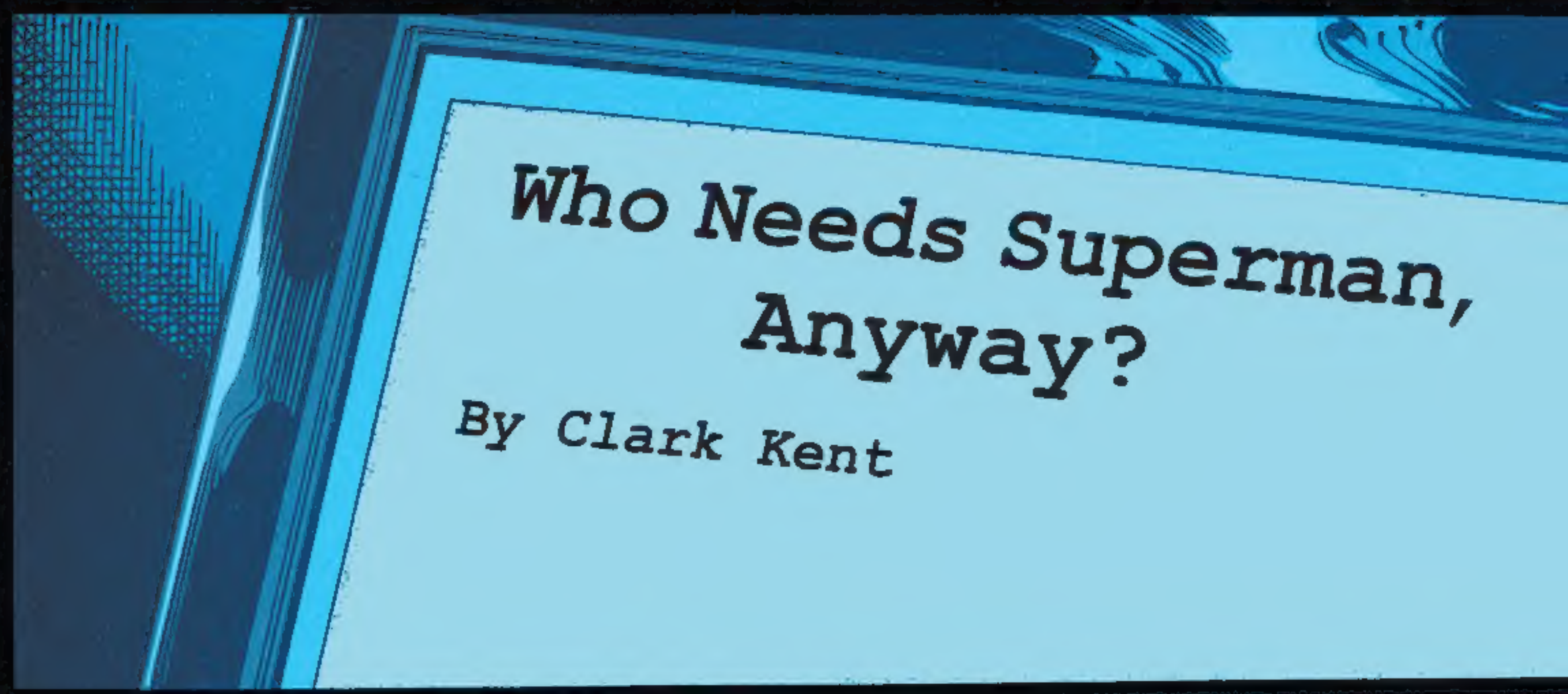
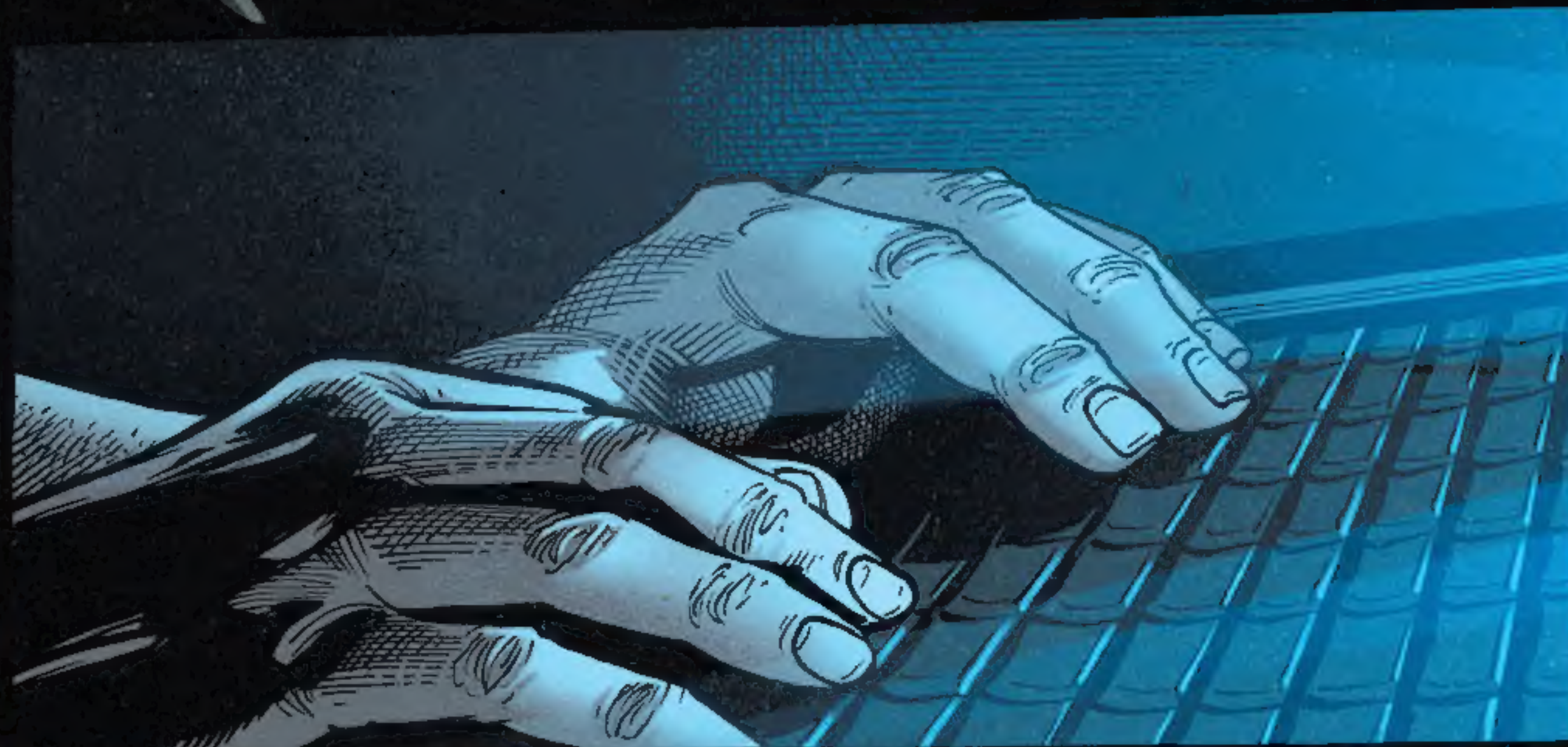
DEC 2014

RATED **T** TEEN

METROPOLIS.

THREE IN THE MORNING.

TODAY.



EIGHTEEN HOURS EARLIER.

I PUNCH THROUGH
THE ICE AND ROCKS OF
SATURN'S RINGS, AND
I SHOULD BE ELATED.

AFTER SIXTY DAYS OF
TEARING NON-STOP
THROUGH ENDLESS
SPACE...

...I'M NEARLY
HOME.

BUT THE LAST TIME I SAW
EARTH, I WAS FIGHTING
BRAINIAK WHILE POSSESSED
BY THE DOOMSDAY VIRUS...

...AND THE LIVES OF
EVERYONE ON THE
PLANET HUNG IN THE
BALANCE.

BUT WE SAVED
THE EARTH.

I DRAGGED BRAINIAK
INTO A BLACK HOLE
WITH MY OWN HANDS.

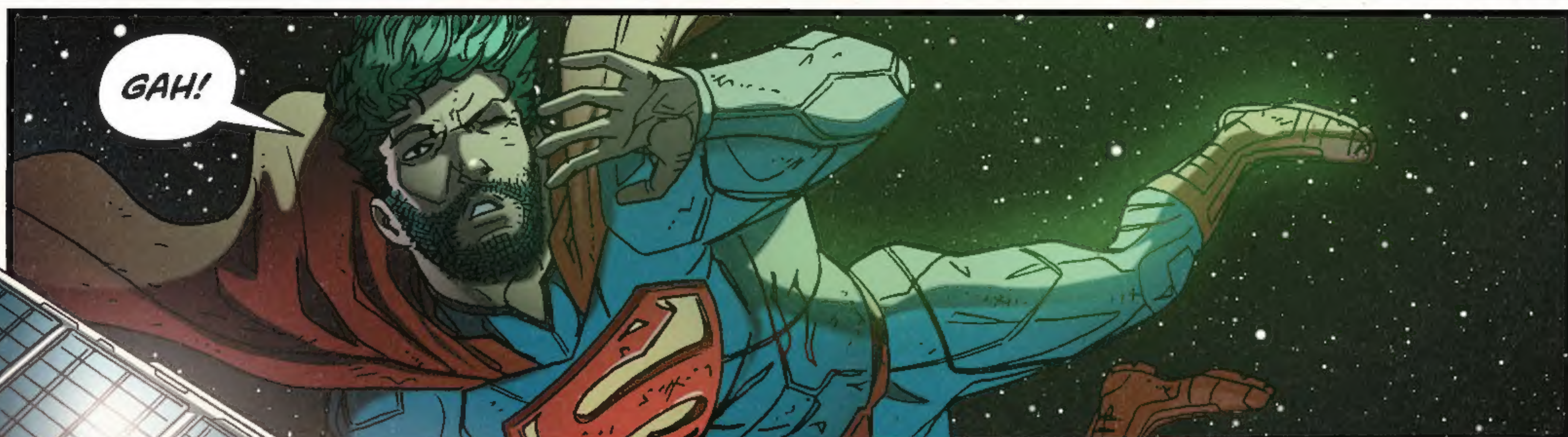
I SHOULDN'T
WORRY, DAMMIT.

BUT I PROMISED
TO KEEP THEM
SAFE.

AND THE TERRIBLE KNOT
IN MY STOMACH ISN'T
GOING TO GO AWAY...



...UNTIL I SEE
THEM ALL WITH
MY OWN EYES.



GAH!



KRYPTONITE
PULSE...



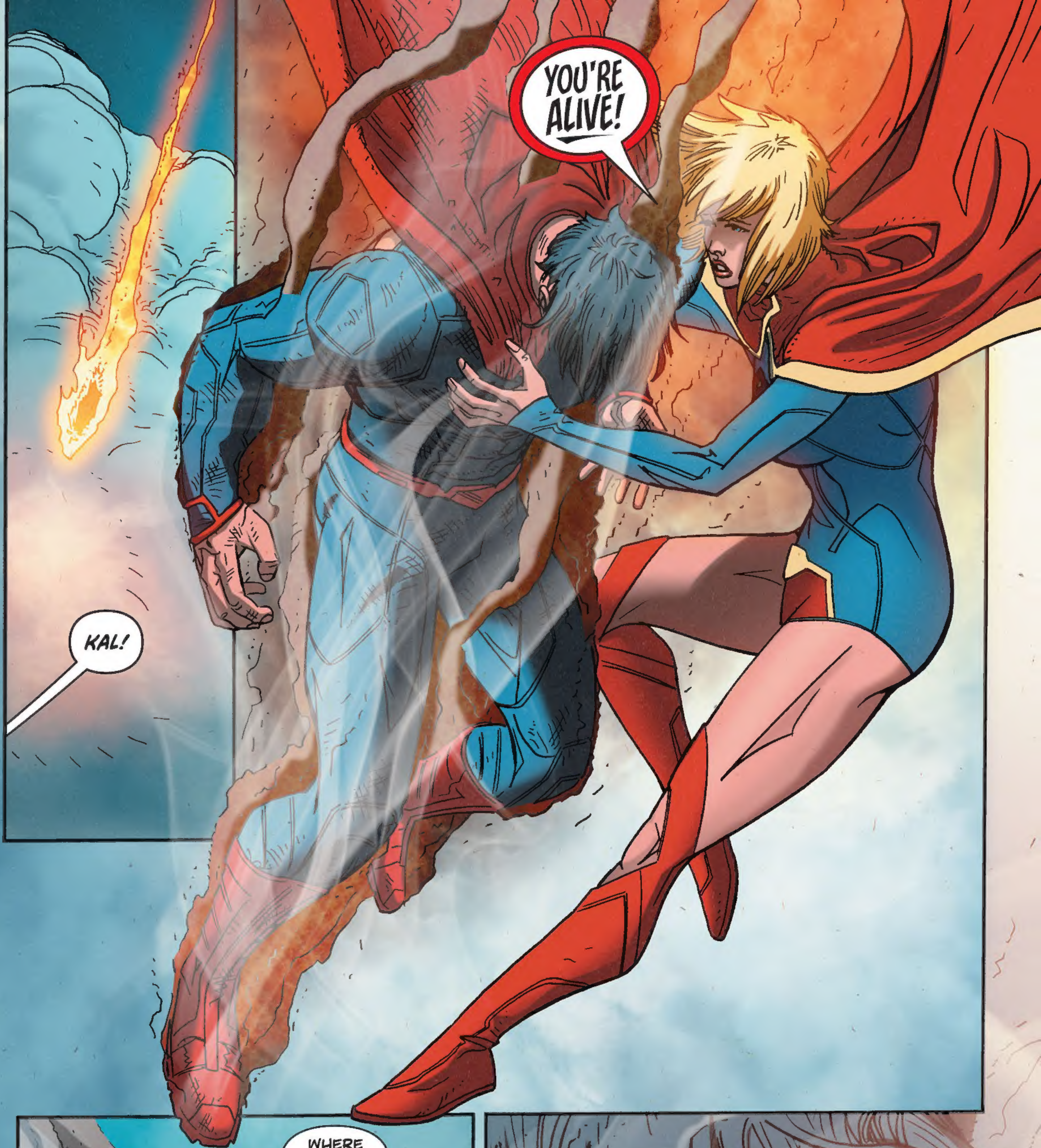
NNNNGH!



DAMMIT,
BRUCE.



...FROM A
WAYNETECH
SATELLITE?



WHERE
HAVE YOU
BEEN?

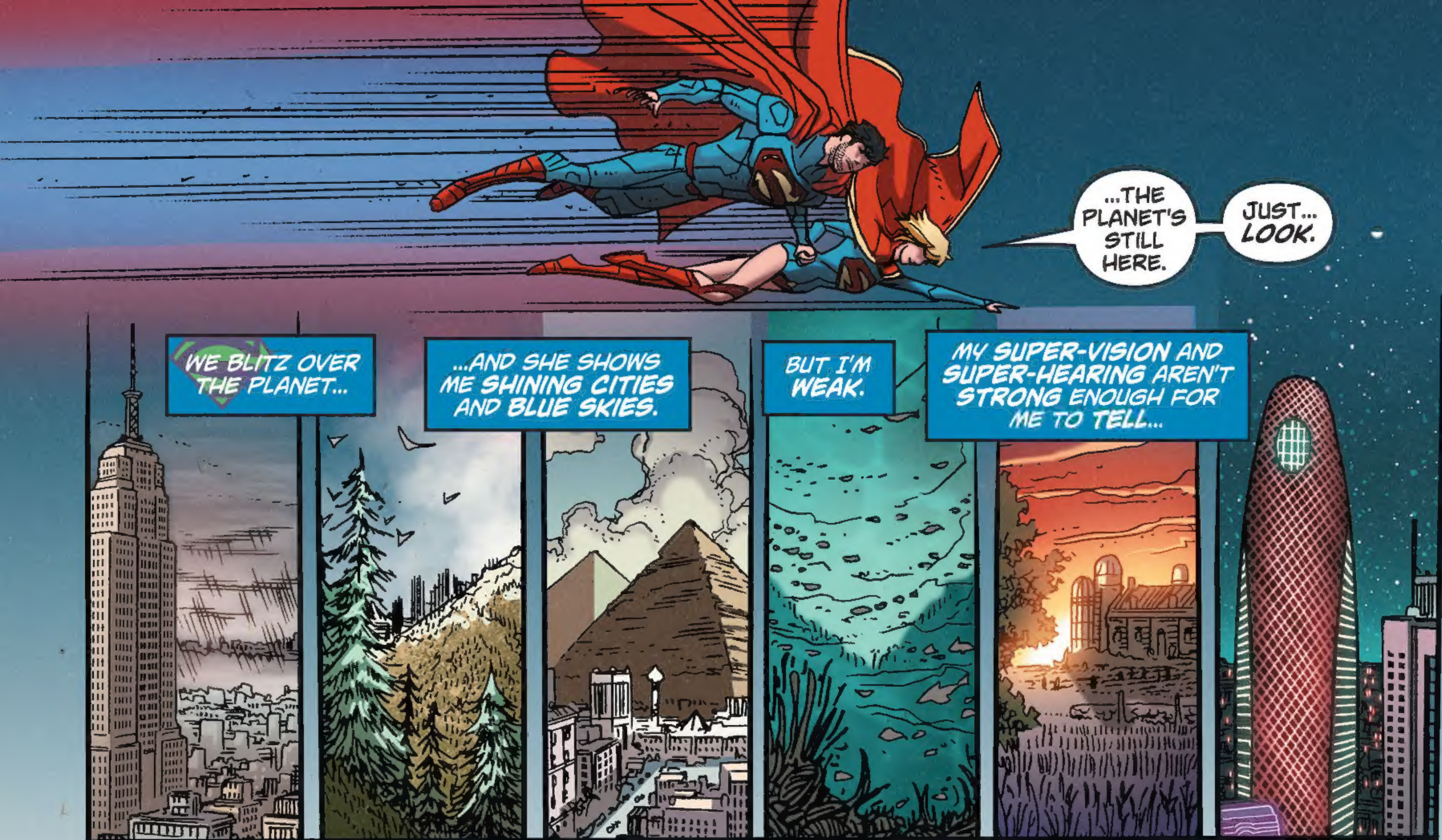
KARA...

...GOT HERE
AS FAST AS
I COULD.



TOOK
TOO LONG. IS
EVERYTHING...IS
EVERYONE...

ALL RIGHT.
CALM DOWN,
COUSIN...



...THE
PLANET'S
STILL
HERE.

JUST...
LOOK.

WE BLITZ OVER
THE PLANET...

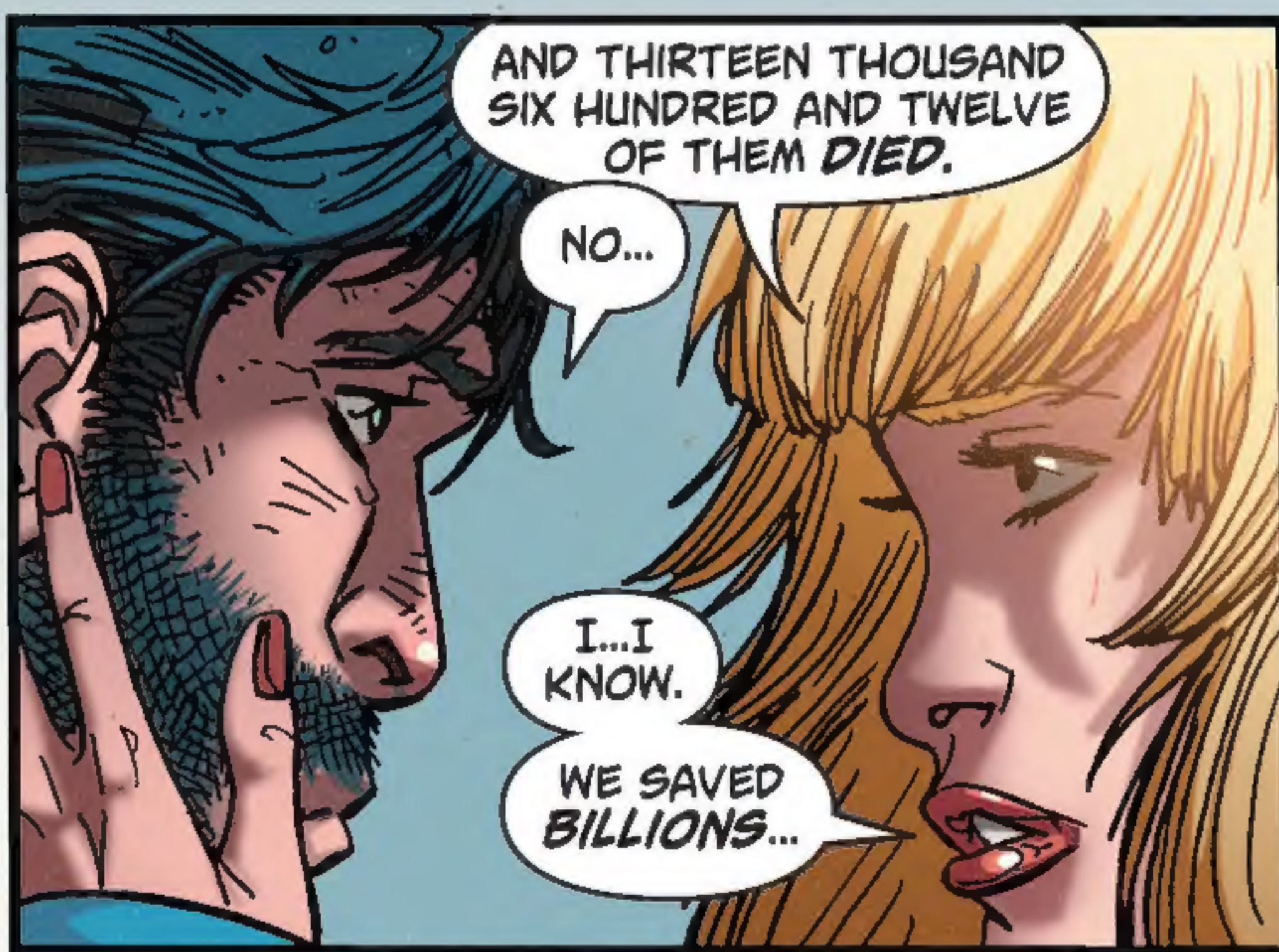
...AND SHE SHOWS
ME SHINING CITIES
AND BLUE SKIES.

BUT I'M
WEAK.

MY SUPER-VISION AND
SUPER-HEARING AREN'T
STRONG ENOUGH FOR
ME TO TELL...



KARA.
BRAINIAK
KNOCKED OUT
SEVEN BILLION
PEOPLE--



AND THIRTEEN THOUSAND
SIX HUNDRED AND TWELVE
OF THEM DIED.

NO...

I...I
KNOW.

WE SAVED
BILLIONS...

THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE.

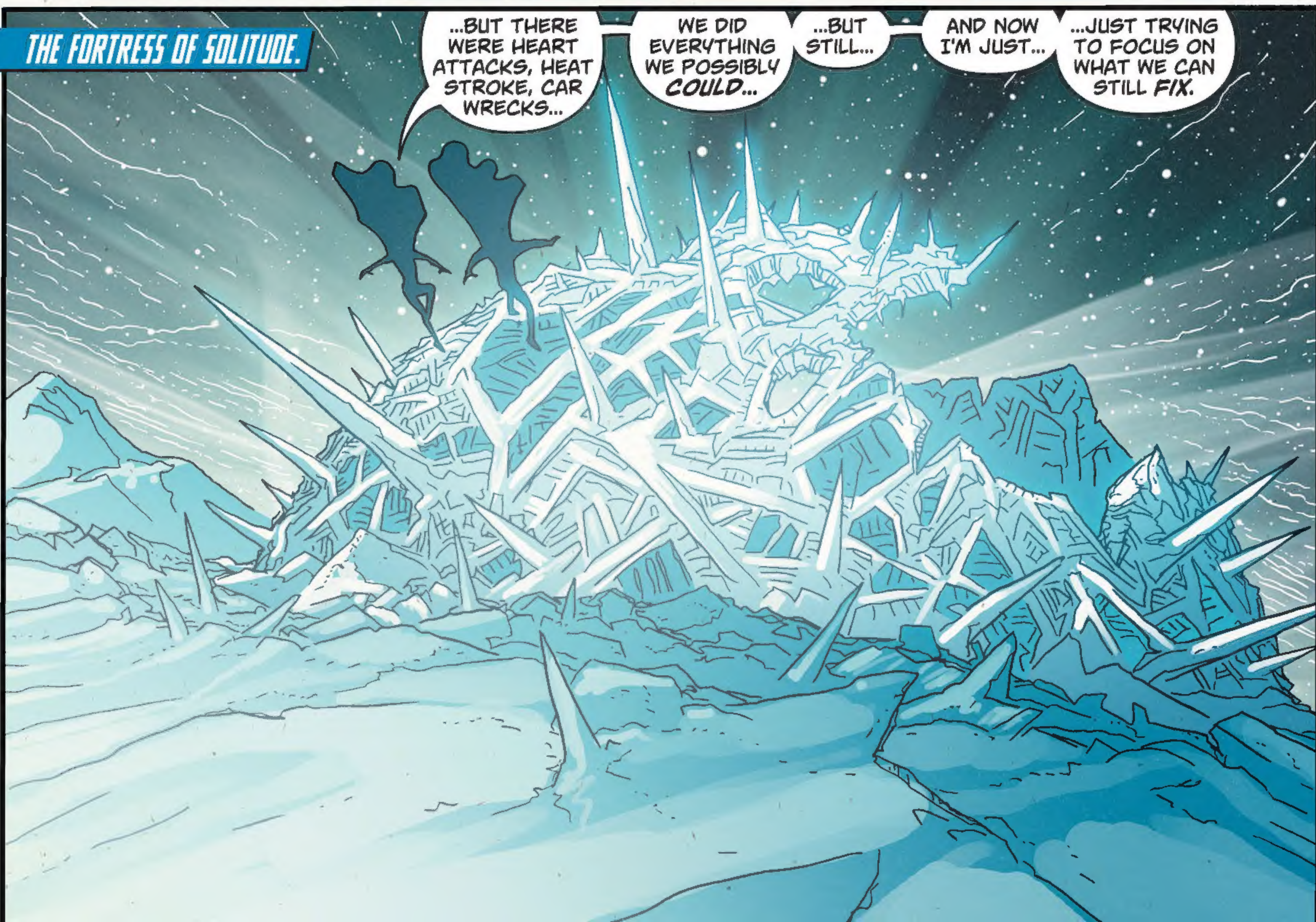
...BUT THERE
WERE HEART
ATTACKS, HEAT
STROKE, CAR
WRECKS...

WE DID
EVERYTHING
WE POSSIBLY
COULD...

...BUT
STILL...

AND NOW
I'M JUST...

...JUST TRYING
TO FOCUS ON
WHAT WE CAN
STILL FIX.





"...I'LL START AT HOME."

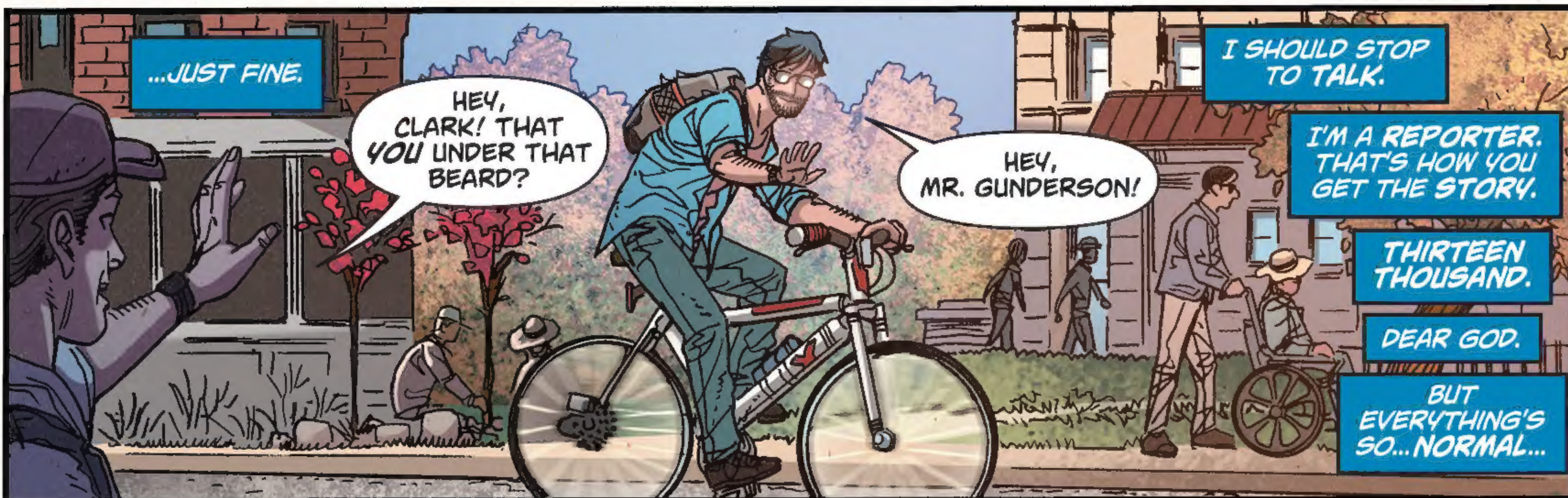
THIS WAS THE FIRST PLACE BRAINIAC HIT.

EVERYONE IN THIS TOWN SPENT THREE MONTHS IN A COMA, STUDIED BY A HUNDRED SCIENTISTS AND QUARANTINED BY FIVE PLATOONS.



BUT NOW THERE ARE JUST A COUPLE OF NATIONAL GUARDSMEN DRINKING COFFEE WHERE THE CHECKPOINTS USED TO BE.

AND FOLKS SEEM...



...JUST FINE.

HEY, CLARK! THAT YOU UNDER THAT BEARD?

HEY, MR. GUNDERSON!

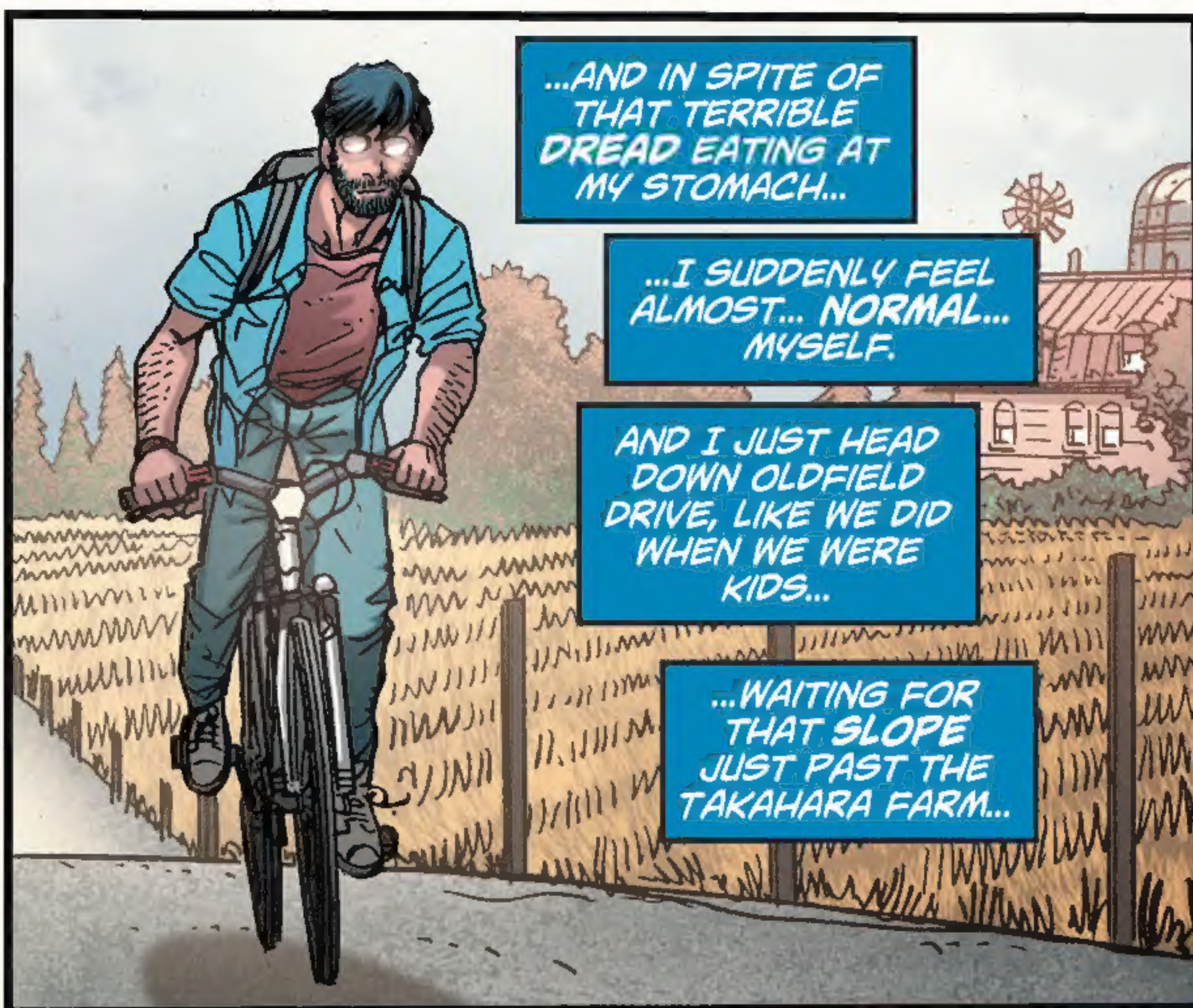
I SHOULD STOP TO TALK.

I'M A REPORTER. THAT'S HOW YOU GET THE STORY.

THIRTEEN THOUSAND.

DEAR GOD.

BUT EVERYTHING'S SO...NORMAL...



...AND IN SPITE OF THAT TERRIBLE DREAD EATING AT MY STOMACH...

...I SUDDENLY FEEL ALMOST...NORMAL...MYSELF.

AND I JUST HEAD DOWN OLDFIELD DRIVE, LIKE WE DID WHEN WE WERE KIDS...

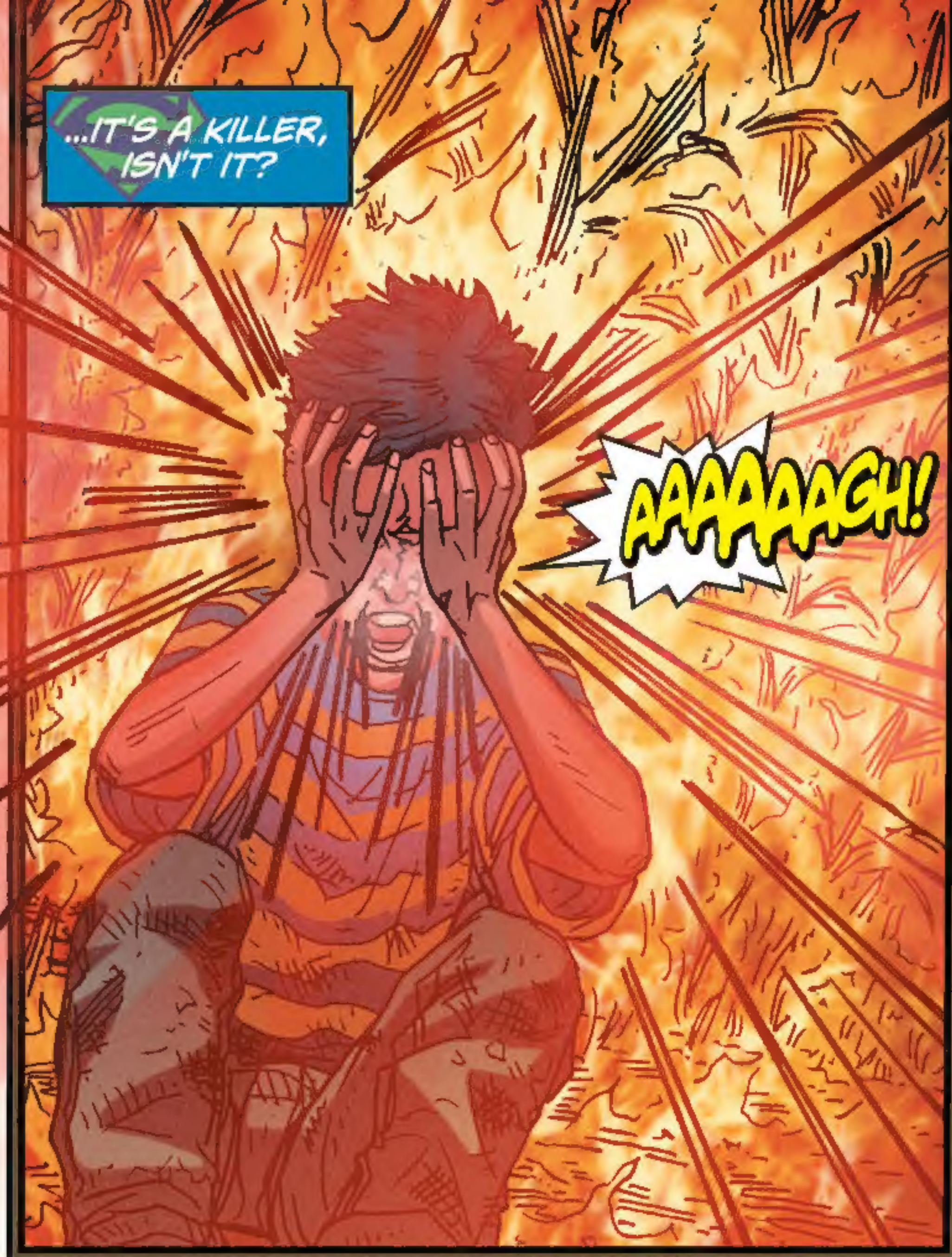
...WAITING FOR THAT SLOPE JUST PAST THE TAKAHARA FARM...



FEELS LIKE FLYING.

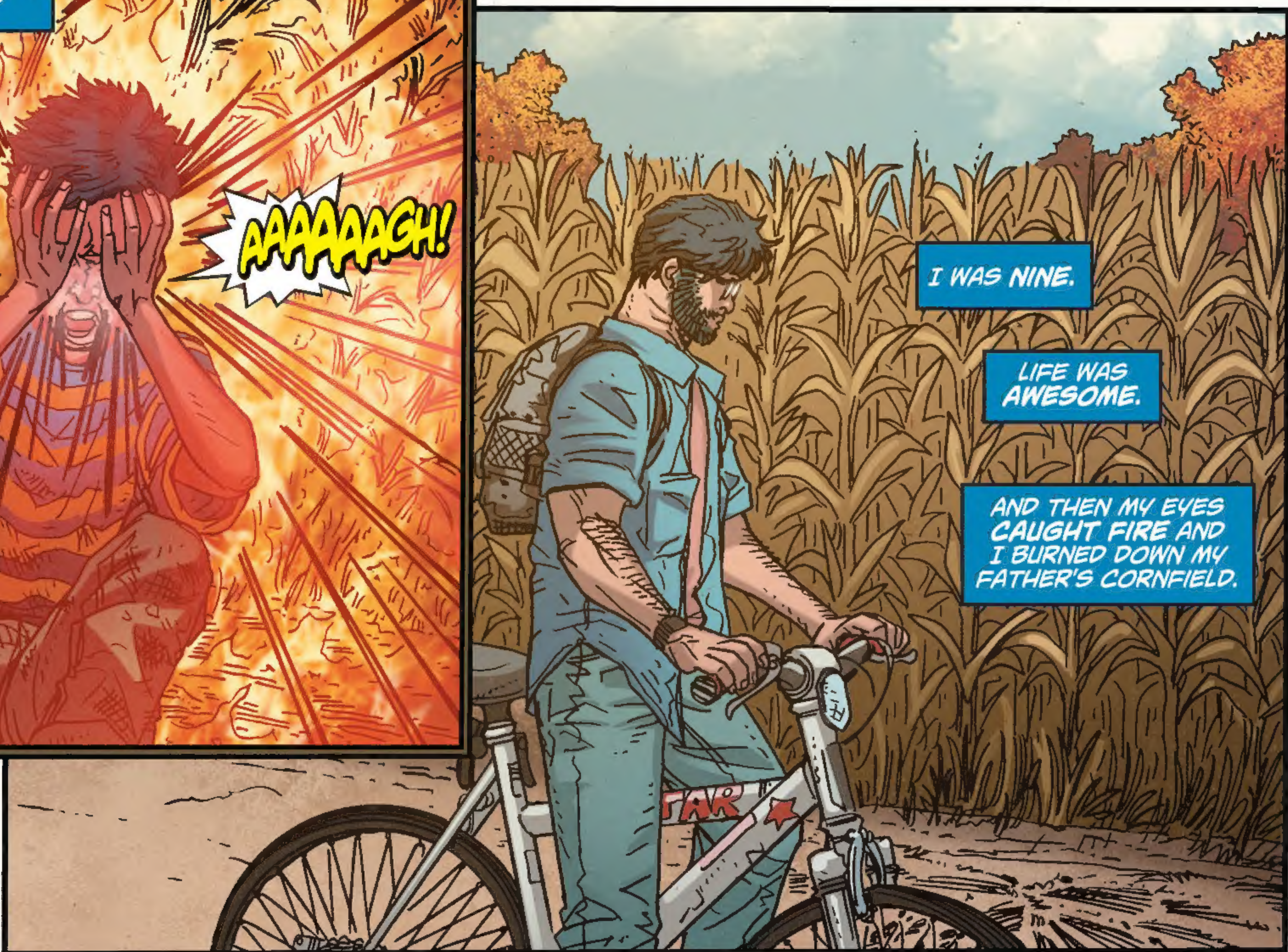
AH.

NOSTALGIA...



...IT'S A KILLER,
ISN'T IT?

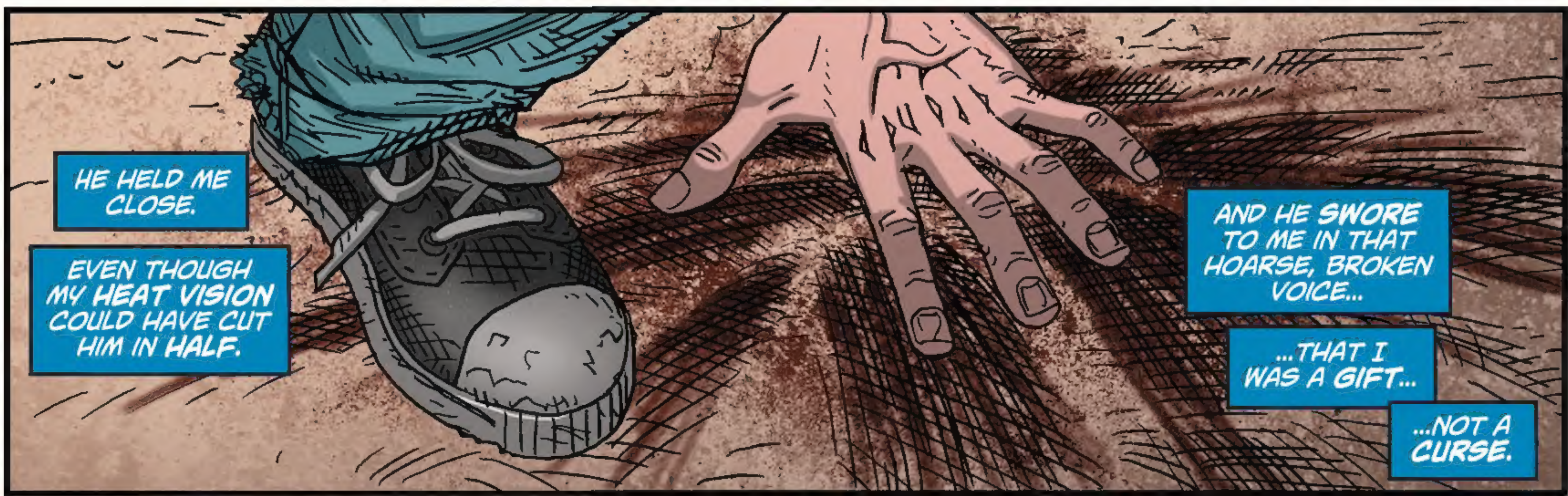
AAAAAAGH!



I WAS NINE.

LIFE WAS
AWESOME.

AND THEN MY EYES
CAUGHT FIRE AND
I BURNED DOWN MY
FATHER'S CORNFIELD.



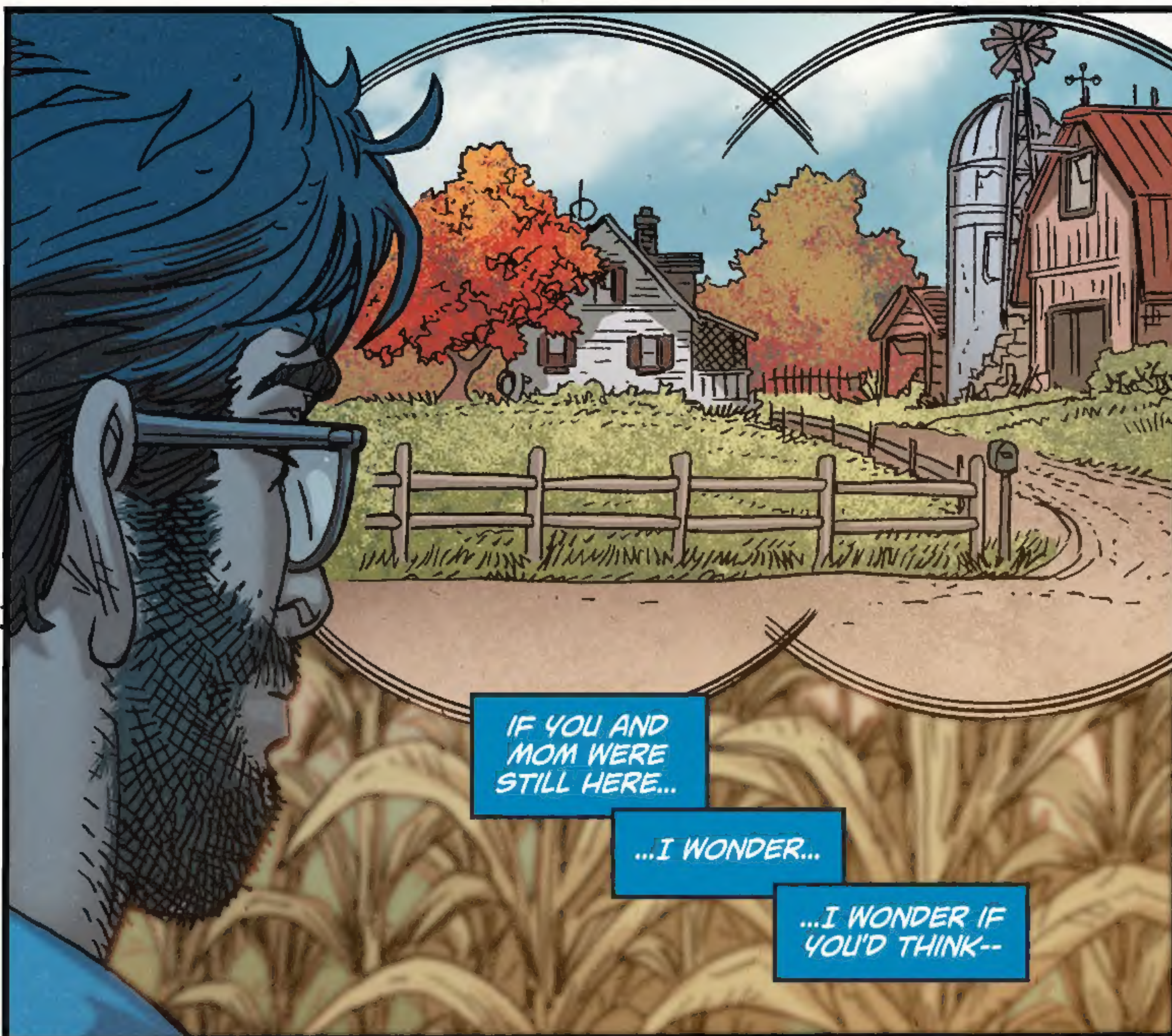
HE HELD ME
CLOSE.

EVEN THOUGH
MY HEAT VISION
COULD HAVE CUT
HIM IN HALF.

AND HE SWORE
TO ME IN THAT
HOARSE, BROKEN
VOICE...

...THAT I
WAS A GIFT...

...NOT A
CURSE.

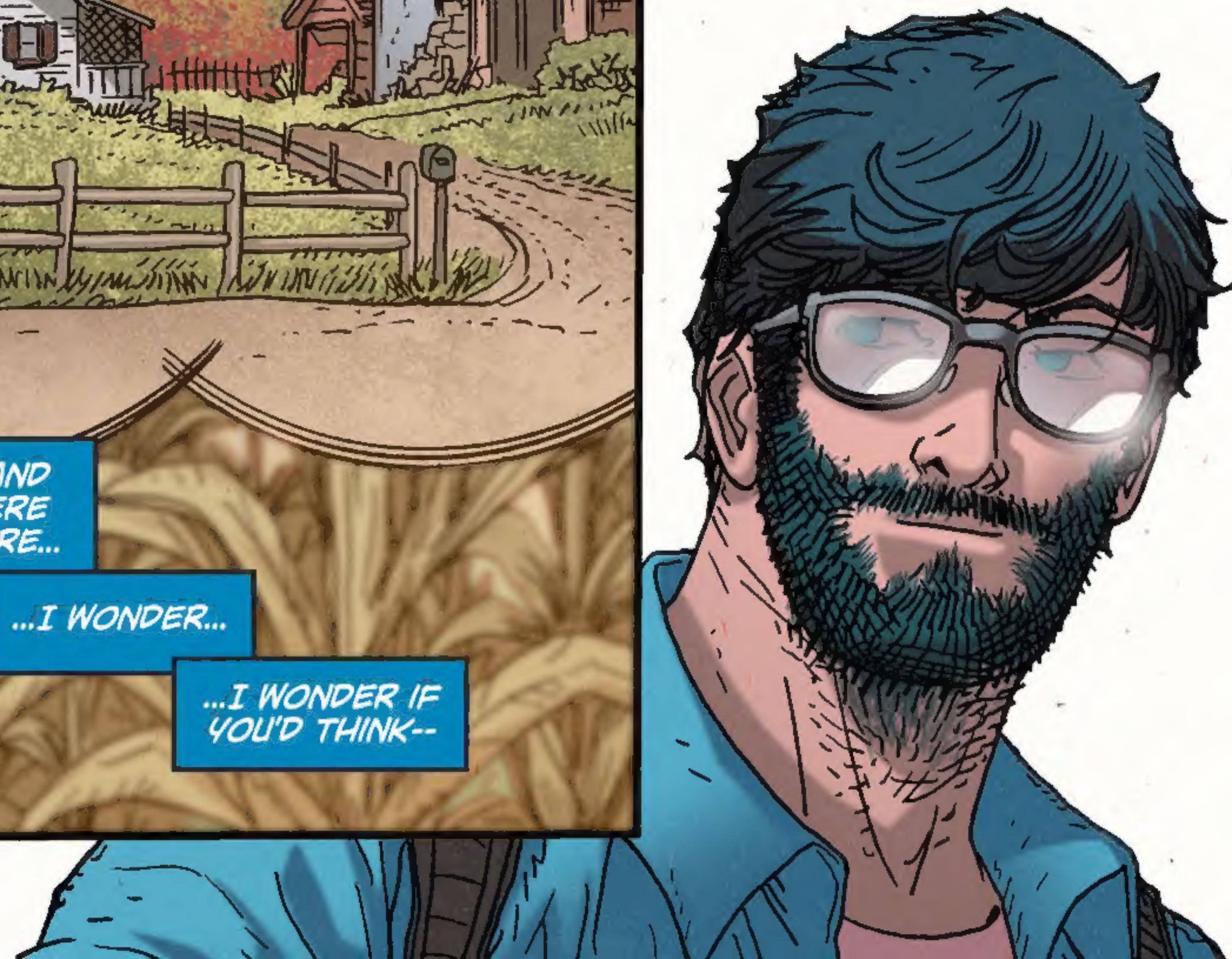


IF YOU AND
MOM WERE
STILL HERE...

...I WONDER...

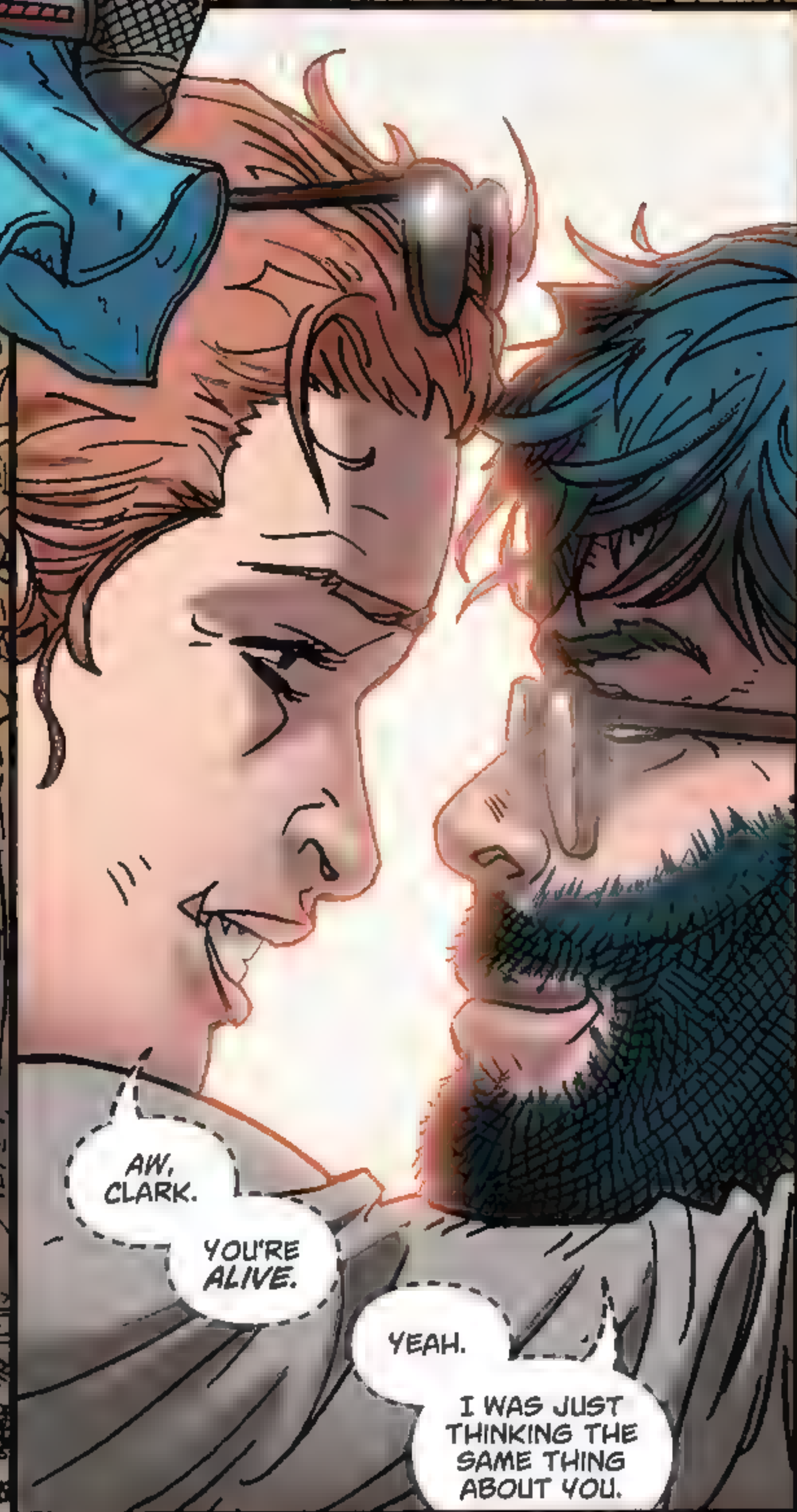
...I WONDER IF
YOU'D THINK--

CLARK?



CLARK!

LANA!

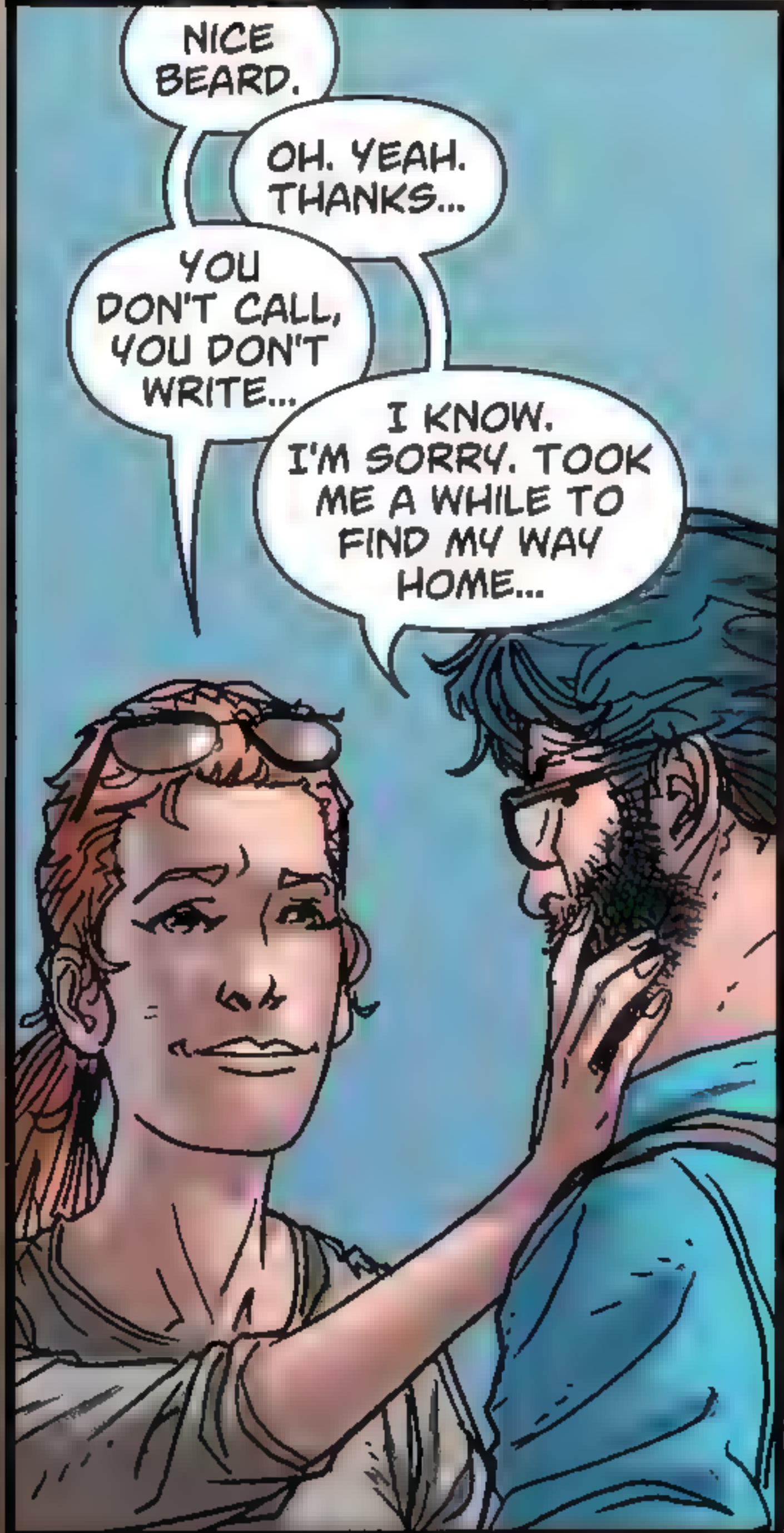


AW, CLARK.

YOU'RE ALIVE.

YEAH.

I WAS JUST THINKING THE SAME THING ABOUT YOU.



NICE BEARD.

OH. YEAH. THANKS...

YOU DON'T CALL, YOU DON'T WRITE...

I KNOW. I'M SORRY. TOOK ME A WHILE TO FIND MY WAY HOME...



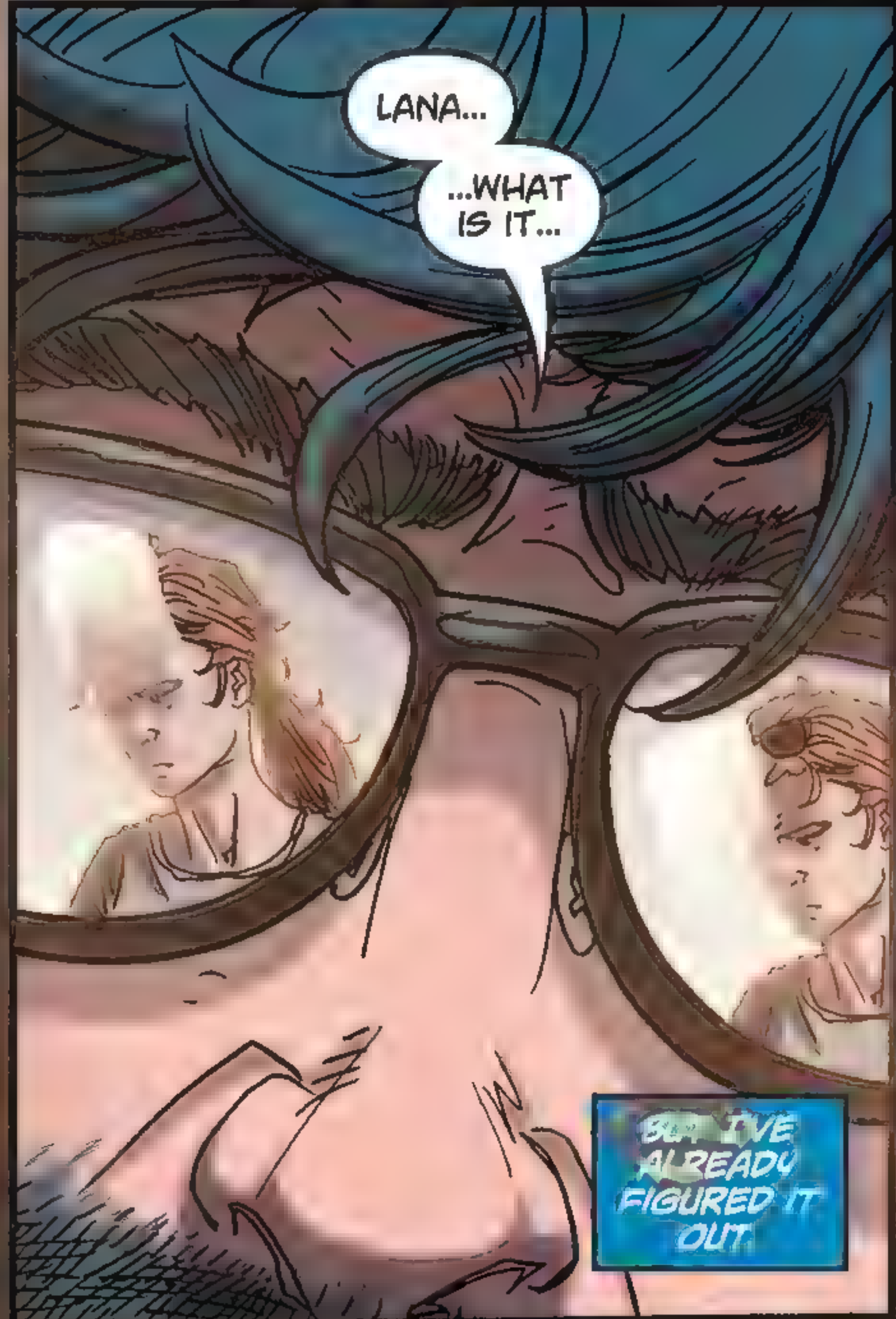
WAIT A MINUTE. YOU SHOULD HAVE HEARD ME DRIVING UP JUST NOW.

HELL, YOU SHOULD HAVE HEARD MY HEARTBEAT THE MINUTE YOU HIT TOWN.

I'M NOT QUITE A HUNDRED PERCENT.

BUT **YOU'RE** LOOKING GOOD.

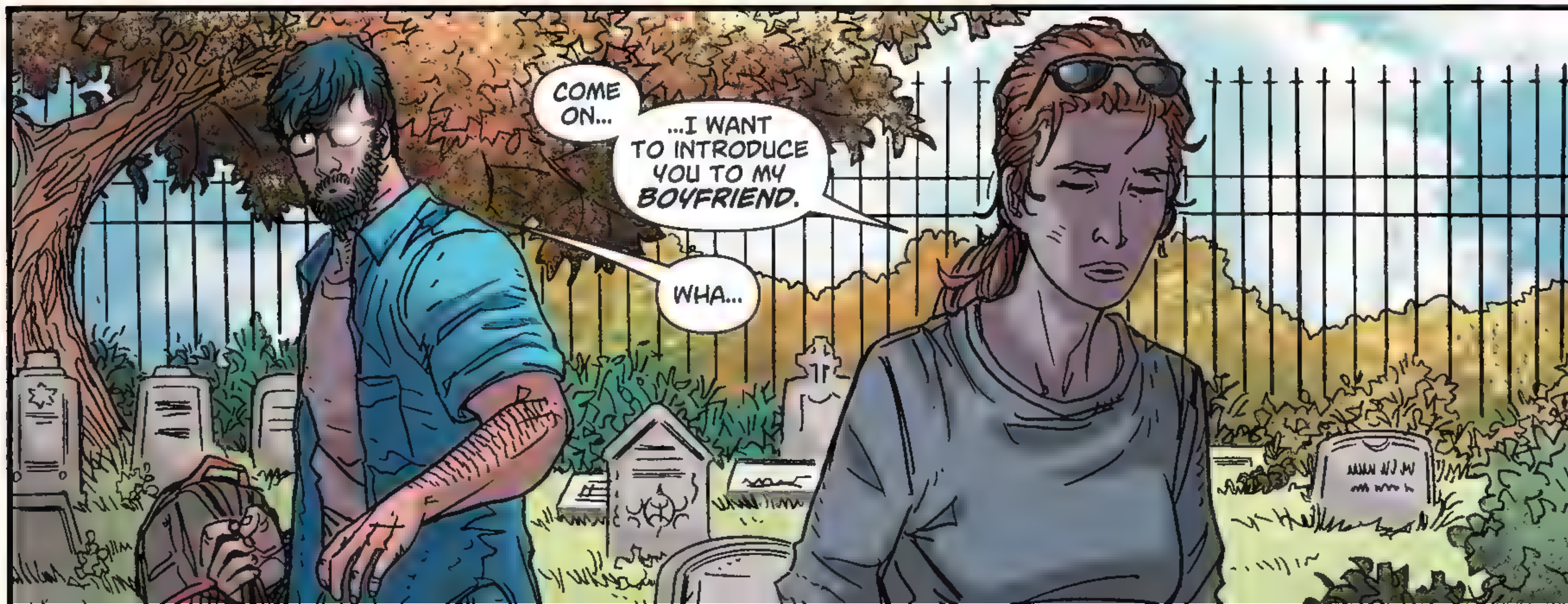
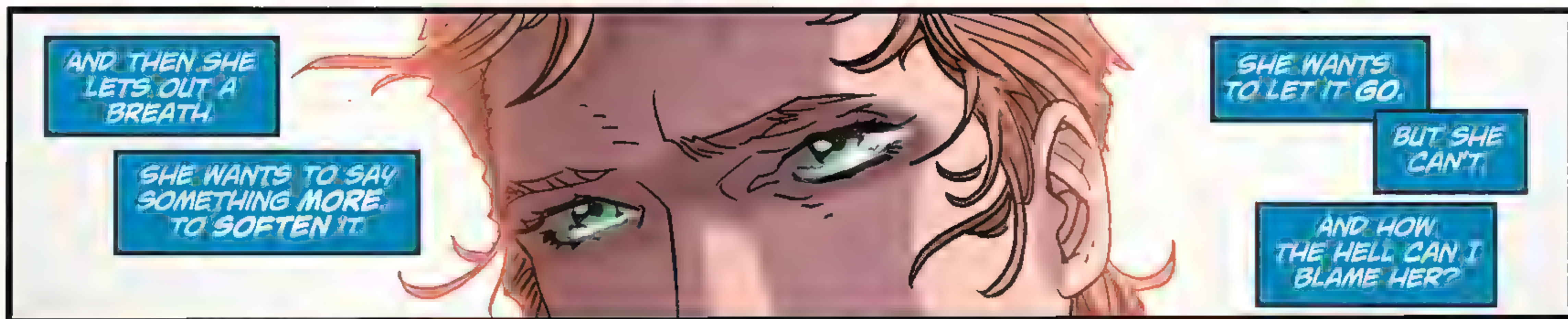
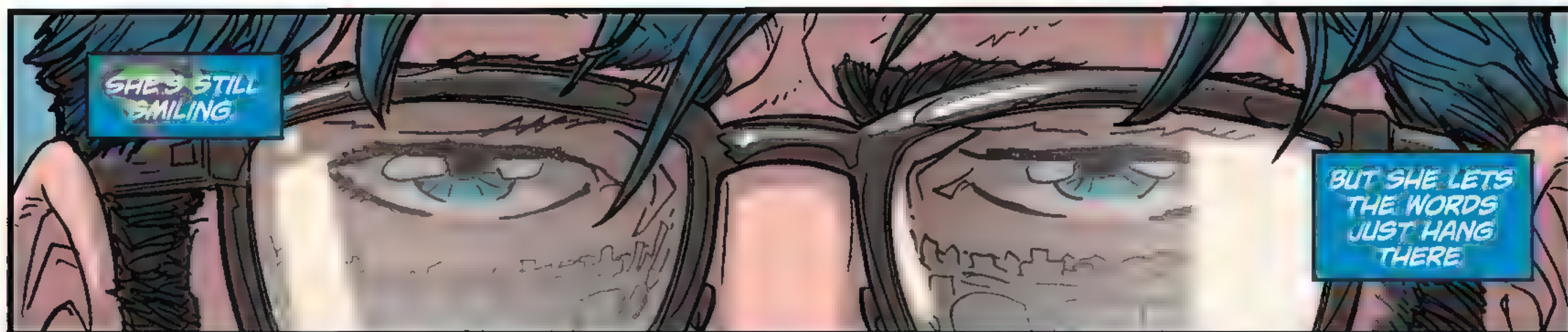
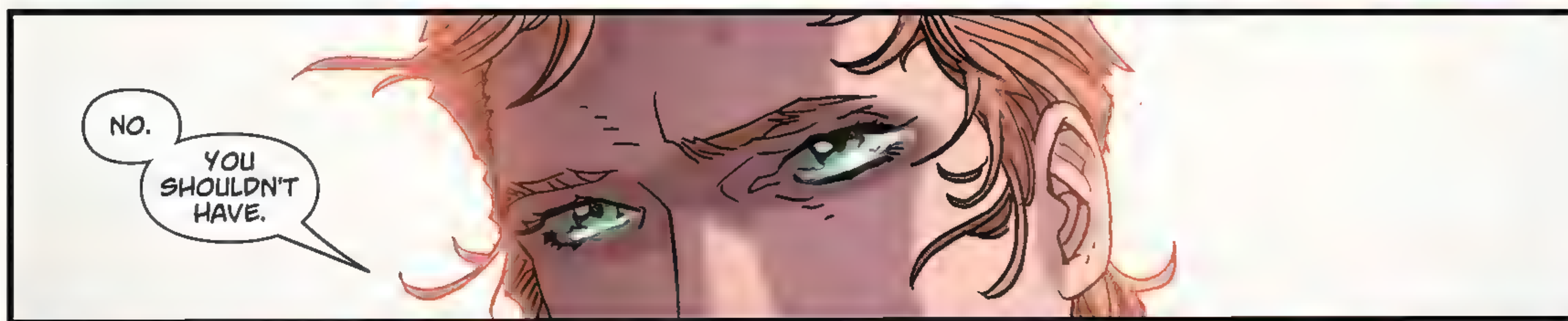
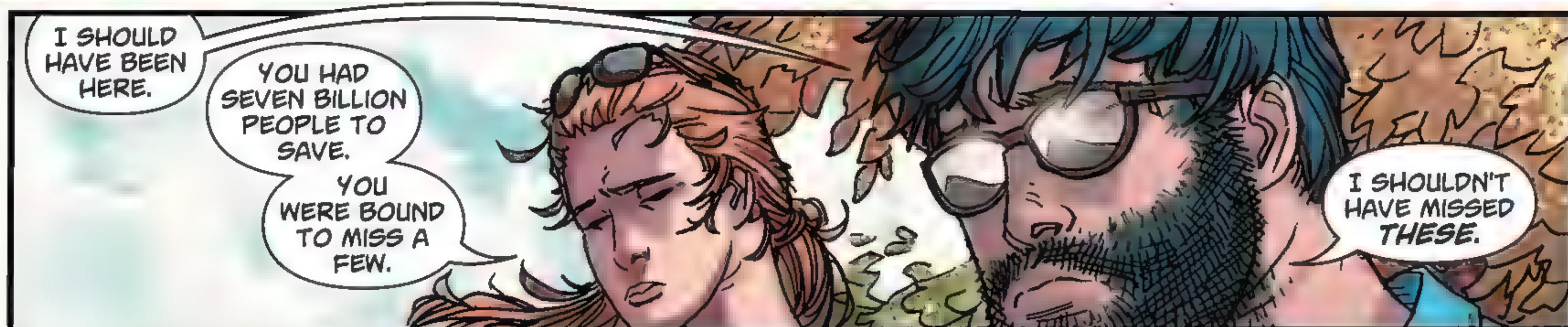
JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE IN TOWN. ALMOST LIKE NOTHING EVER HAPPENED AROUND HERE, HUH?

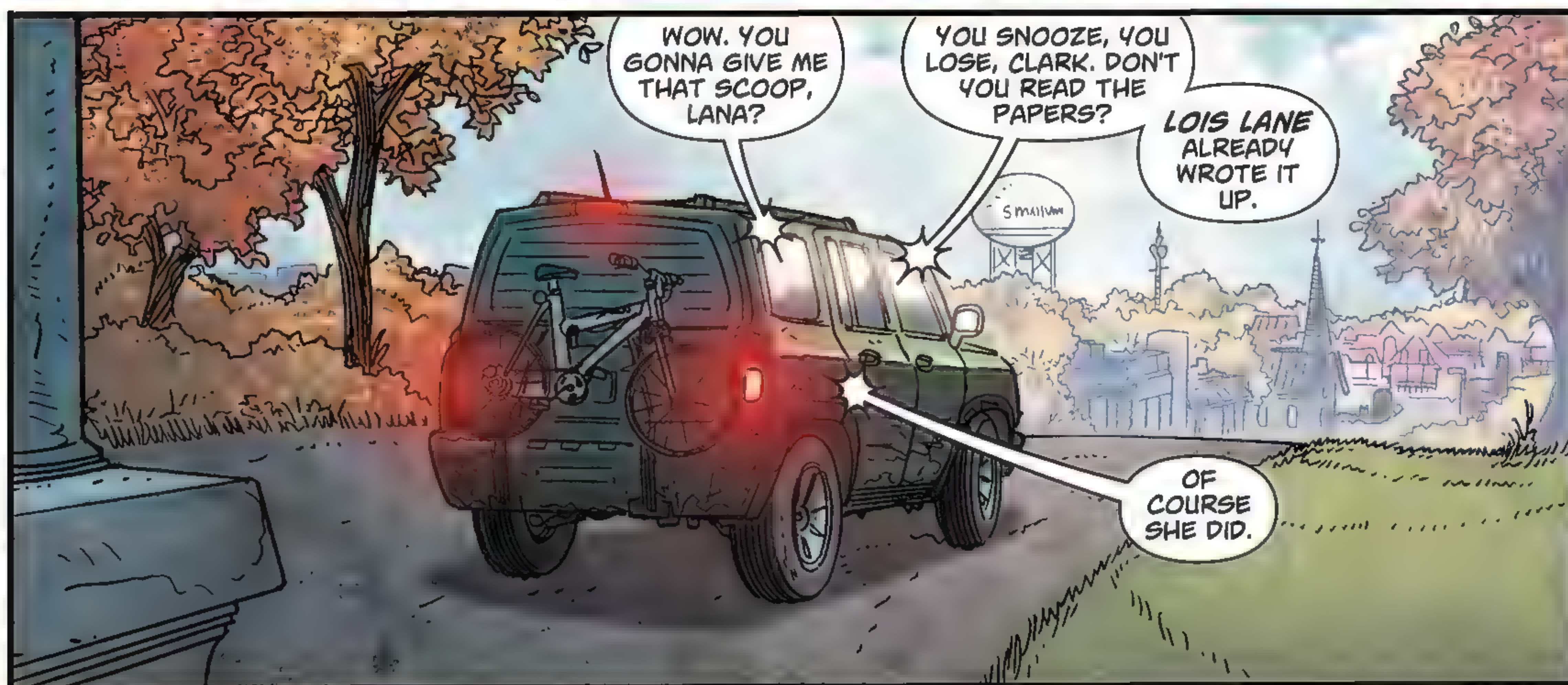
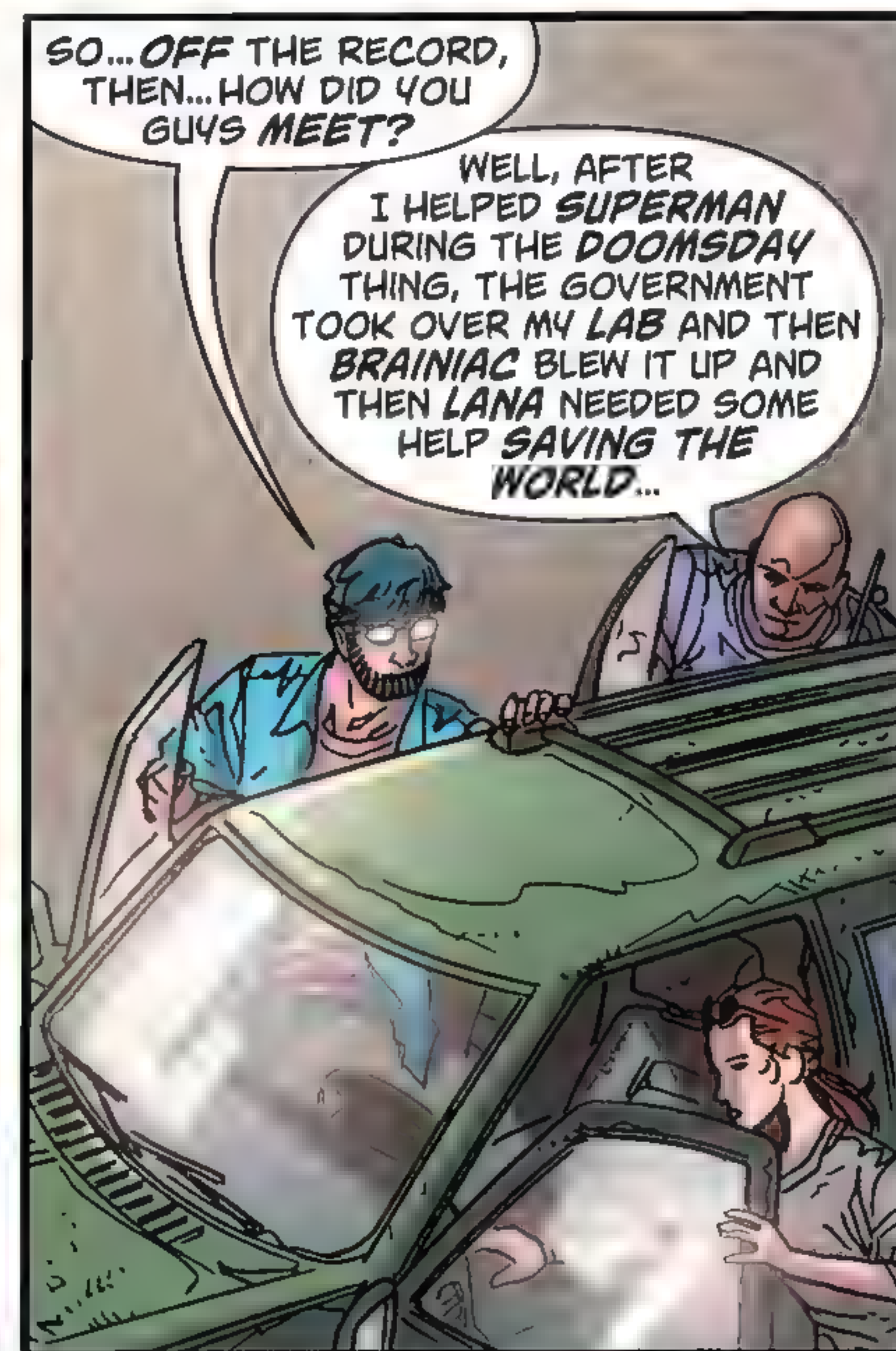
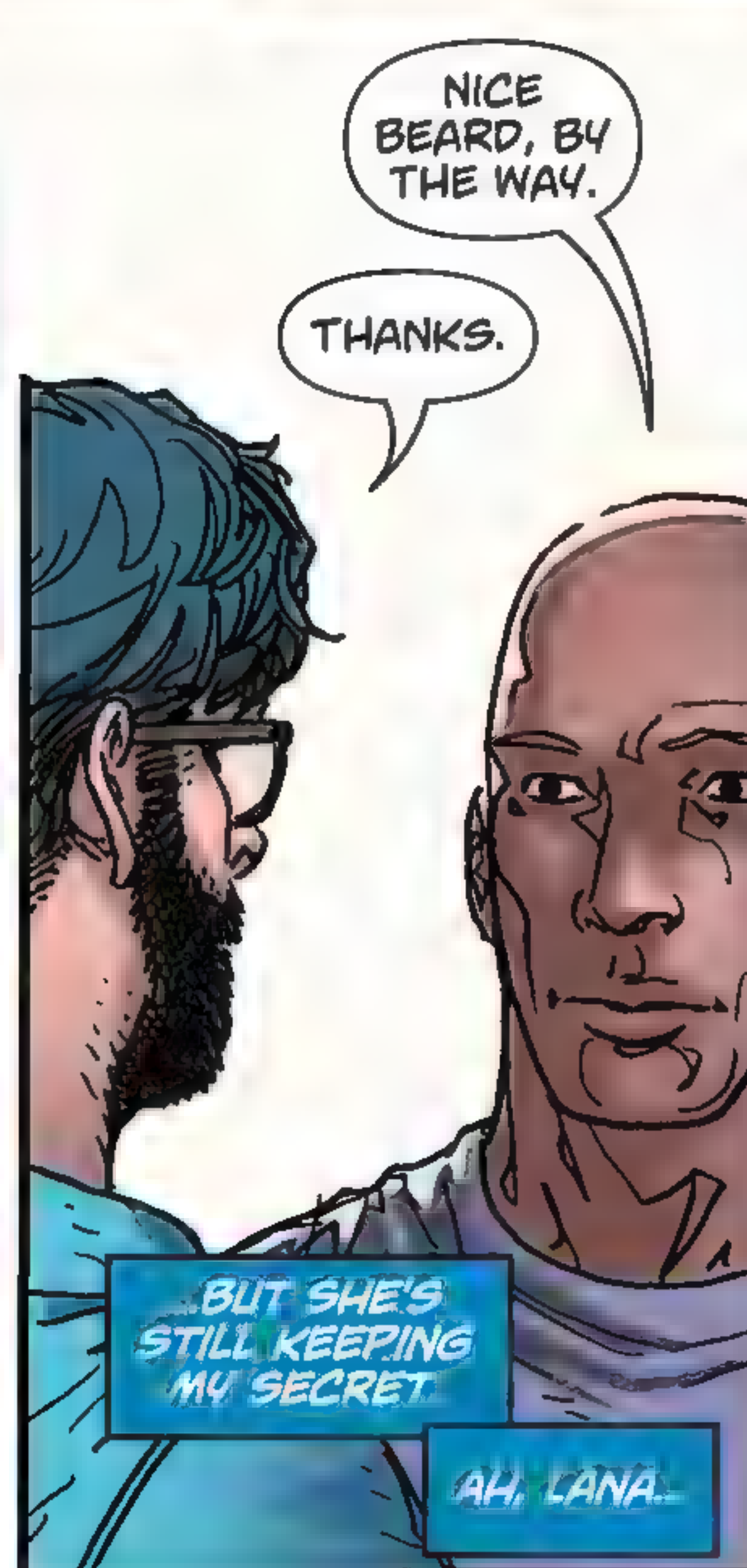
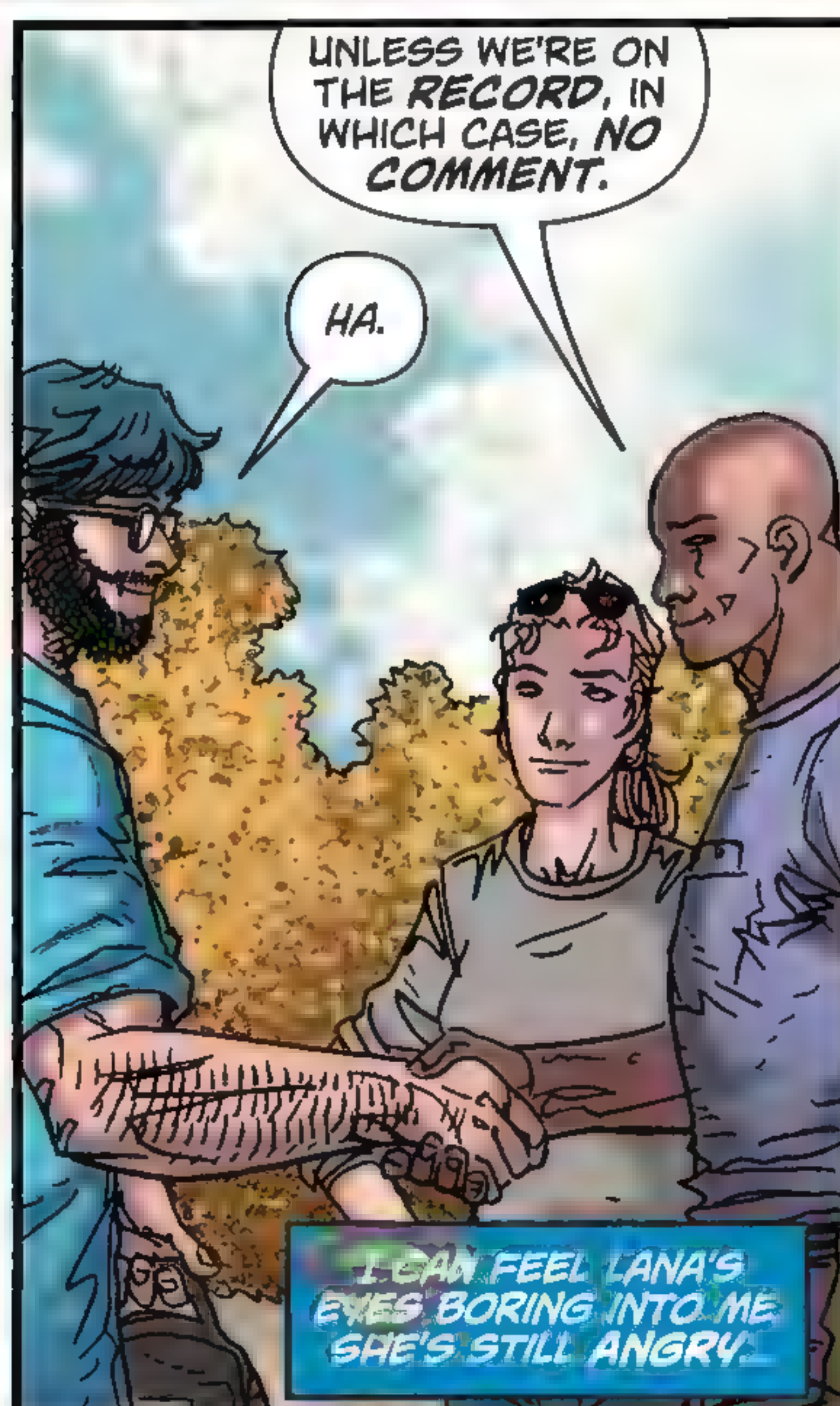


LANA...

...WHAT IS IT...

BUT I'VE ALREADY FIGURED IT OUT.







HEY,
CLARK! WHAT
BRINGS YOU
BACK?

OH, JUST
VISITING, MR.
SANTIAGO.

PSH!
YOU'RE A
GROWN MAN,
NOW! CALL ME
MORRIS,
BOY!

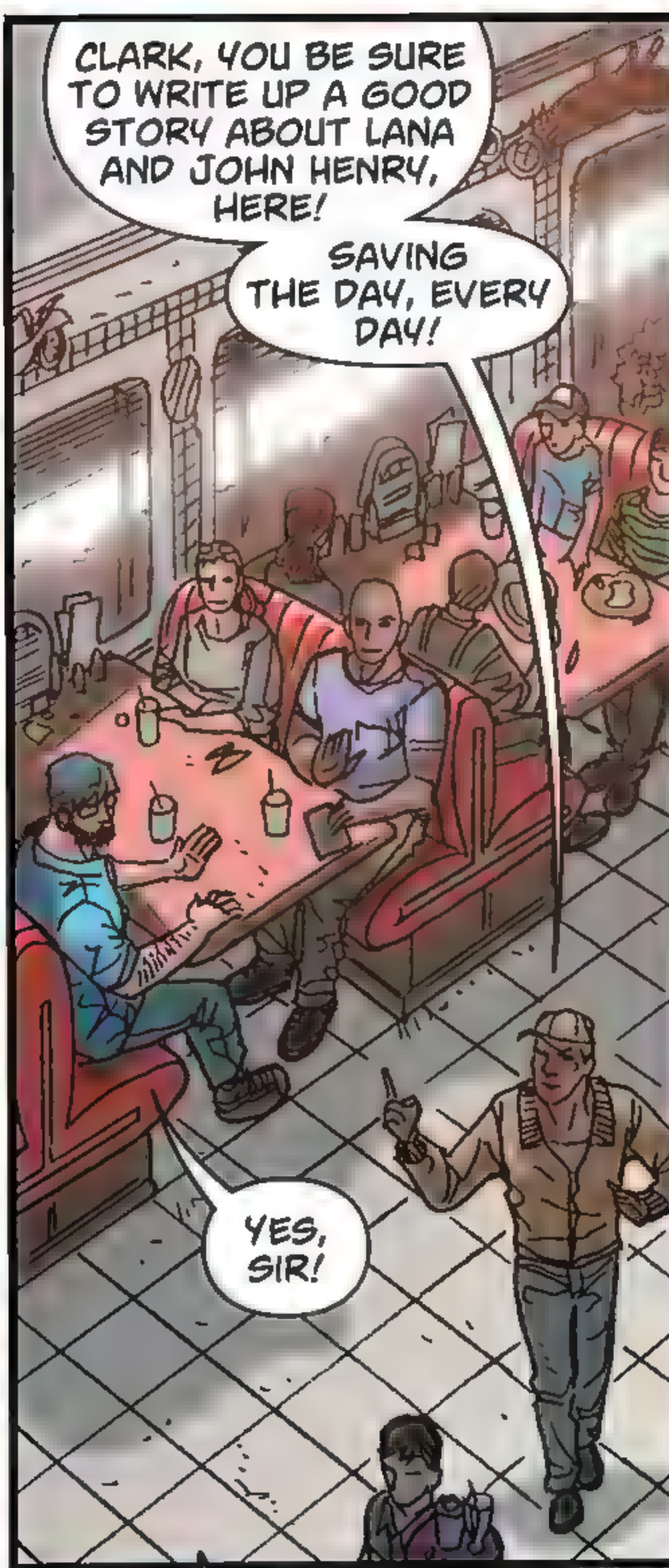
YESSIR.



JOHN HENRY, I GOT
A LITTLE BIT OF THAT
MUSCLE SPASM IN
MY CALF AGAIN.

ALL RIGHT,
MORRIS...LET'S GET
YOU INTO THE LAB AT
TWO. THAT GOOD
FOR YOU?

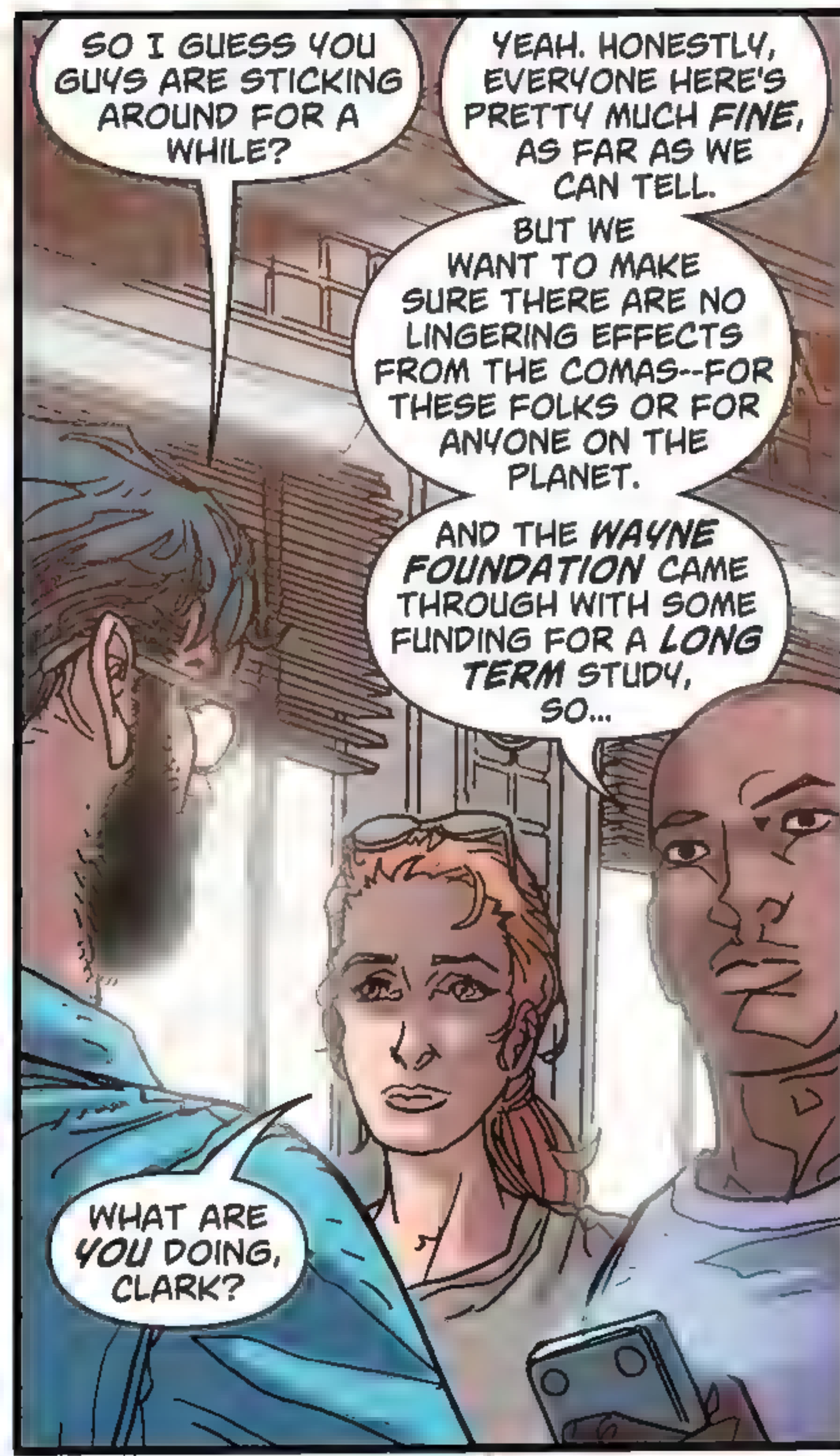
YOU
BET.



CLARK, YOU BE SURE
TO WRITE UP A GOOD
STORY ABOUT LANA
AND JOHN HENRY,
HERE!

SAVING
THE DAY, EVERY
DAY!

YES,
SIR!



SO I GUESS YOU
GUYS ARE STICKING
AROUND FOR A
WHILE?

YEAH. HONESTLY,
EVERYONE HERE'S
PRETTY MUCH FINE,
AS FAR AS WE
CAN TELL.

BUT WE
WANT TO MAKE
SURE THERE ARE NO
LINGERING EFFECTS
FROM THE COMAS--FOR
THESE FOLKS OR FOR
ANYONE ON THE
PLANET.

AND THE **WAYNE**
FOUNDATION CAME
THROUGH WITH SOME
FUNDING FOR A **LONG**
TERM STUDY,
SO...

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING,
CLARK?



I WAS
ACTUALLY
THINKING ABOUT
HELPING OUT
HERE FOR A
WHILE.

BUT
YOU SEEM
TO HAVE IT
ALL UNDER
CONTROL.

WAYNE MANOR.
GOTHAM HEIGHTS.

TOOK YOU
LONG ENOUGH
TO COME
VISIT.

YEAH,
WELL, I WASN'T
PARTICULARLY EAGER
TO SAY HI TO THE GUY
WHO HIT ME WITH THAT
KRYPTONITE
SCAN.

YEAH.
SORRY ABOUT
THAT...

...BUT IT'S PART OF
THE TESTING. AND THE
GOOD NEWS IS YOU'RE
DOOMSDAY-FREE.

I DON'T
KNOW
HOW--

I GUESS
FLYING THROUGH
A FEW BLACK
HOLES'LL KIND OF
CLEAN OUT THE
SYSTEM.

IT'S NICE TO SEE
BRUCE ACTUALLY
SURPRISED
EVERY ONCE IN
A WHILE.

BLACK
HOLES,
HUH?

LONG
STORY. REMIND
ME TO TELL
YOU ABOUT IT
SOME DAY.

I GUESS
THAT EXPLAINS
WHY YOU'RE NOT AT
FULL STRENGTH.

BUT THEN HE'S
BACK TO BUSINESS.

CALCULATING...
PLANNING...

YOU
SHOULD TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF
IT. LAY LOW FOR
A WHILE.

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

THINKING ABOUT
THE PROBLEM.
AND HOW TO
DEAL WITH IT.

THE WORLD
WENT THROUGH
A LOT.

AND A
LOT OF IT
SEEMED TO
COME...

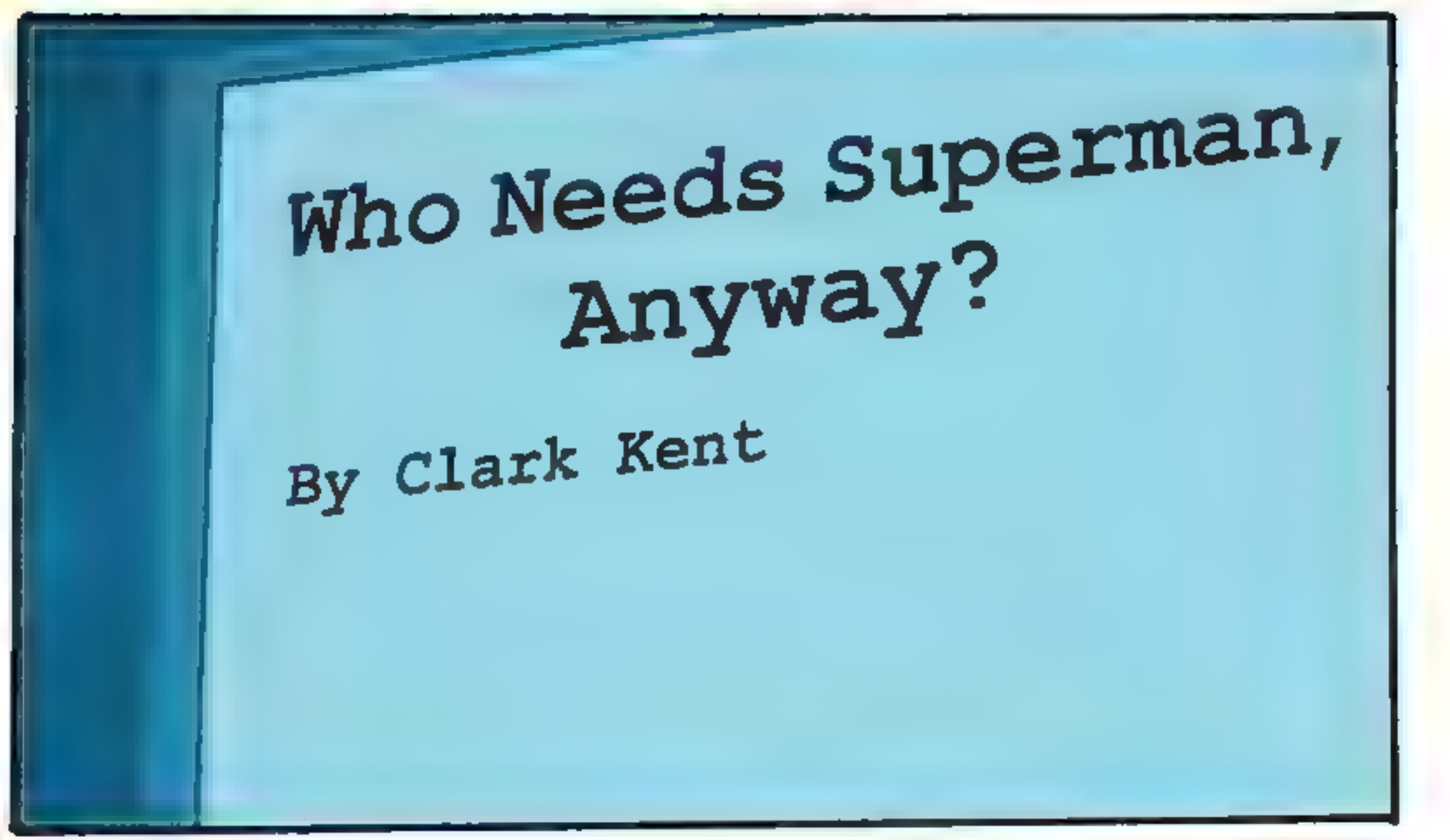
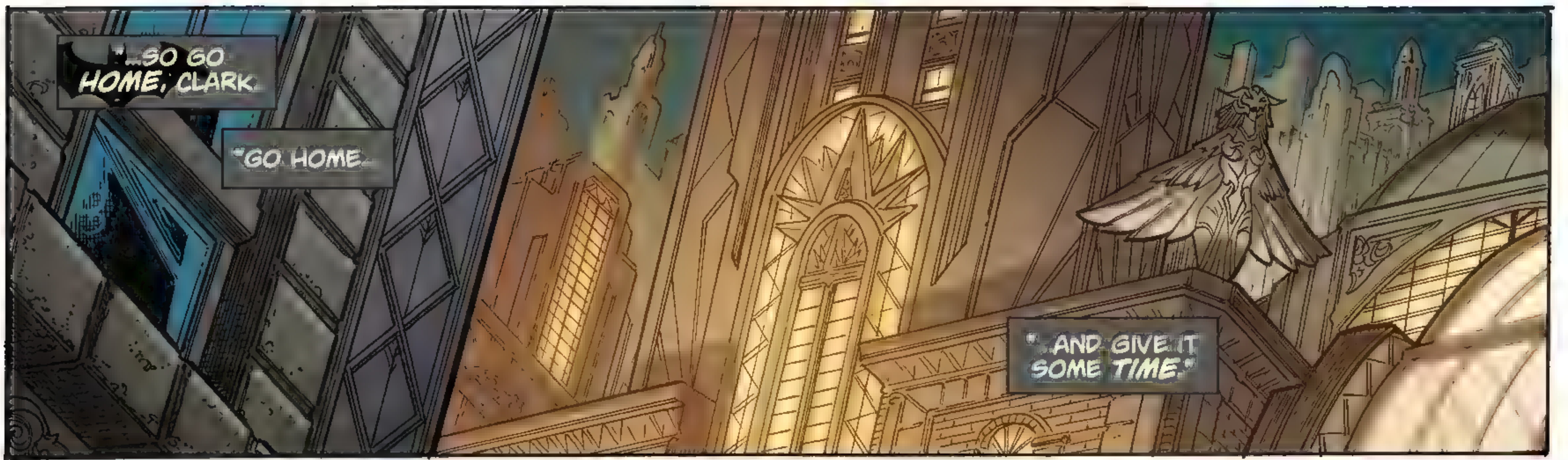
...FROM
SUPERMAN.

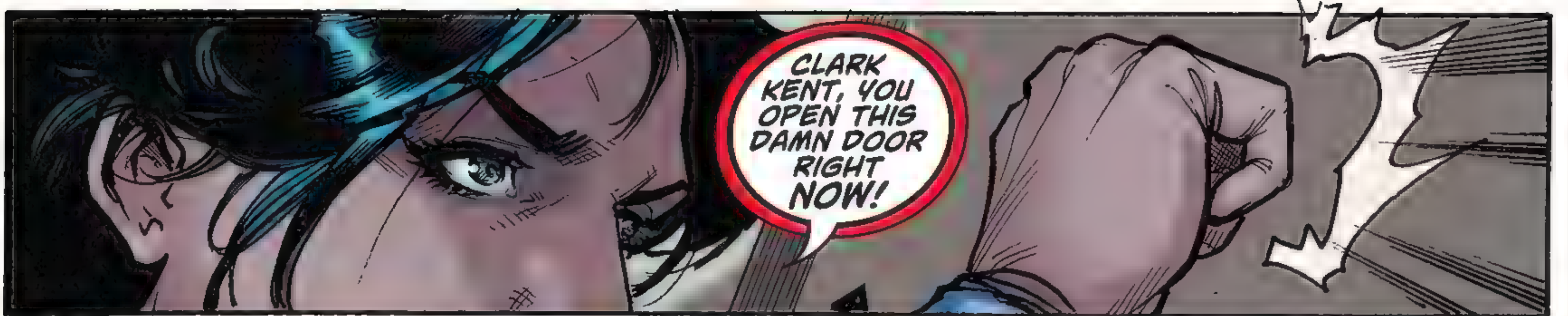
OF COURSE
TODAY.

THE
PROBLEM.

IS ME

BUT I
COVERED FOR
YOUR...OTHER HALF.
PUT OUT A PRESS RELEASE
SAYING THE WAYNE
FOUNDATION HAD HIRED
CLARK KENT FOR A
LONG-TERM OVERSEAS
REPORTING
JOB...





CLARK KENT, YOU OPEN THIS DAMN DOOR RIGHT NOW!

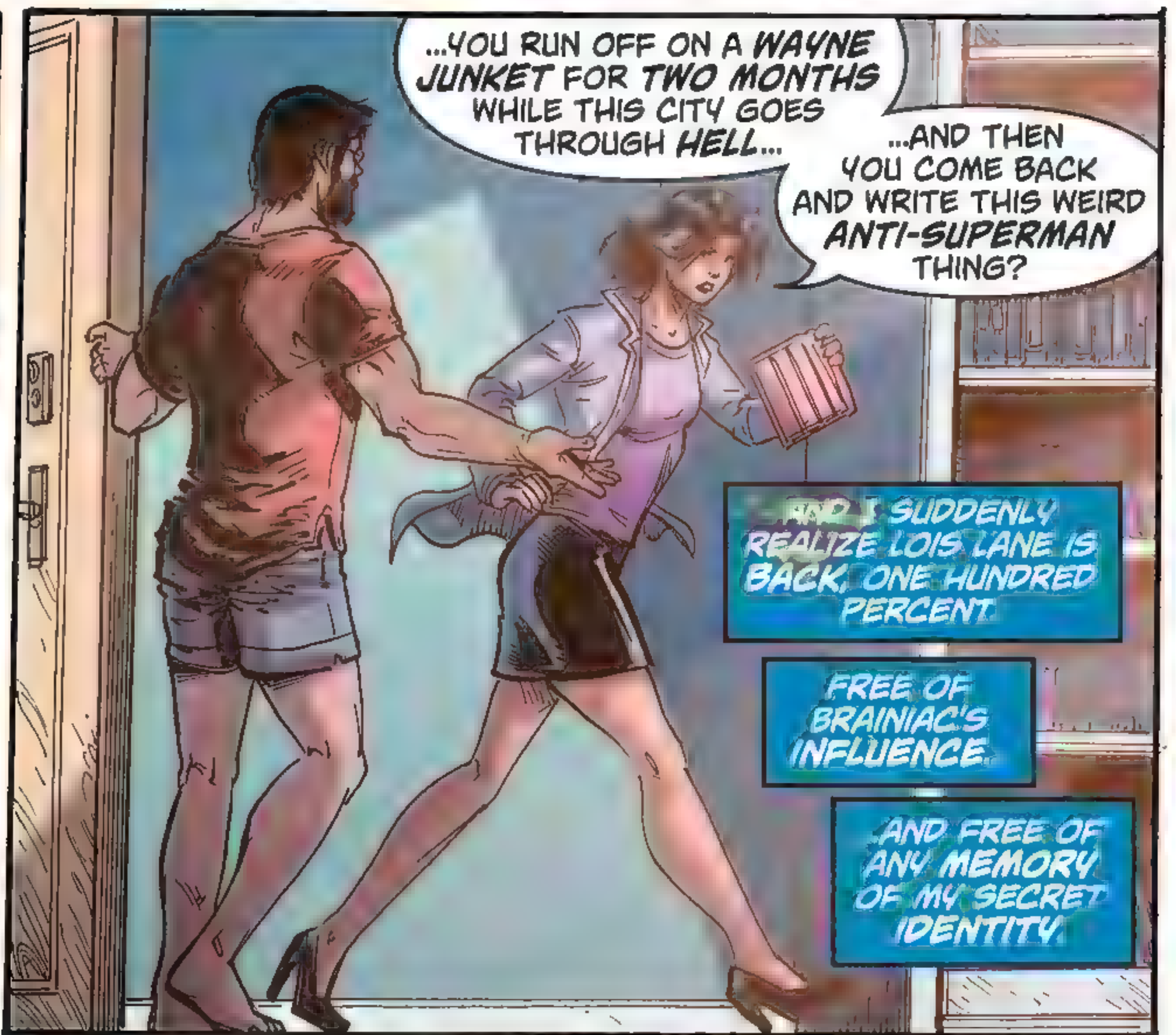


DANG. LOIS. HI. WHAT--

FIRST, THAT BEARD IS RIDICULOUS.

THANKS.

SECOND...



...YOU RUN OFF ON A WAYNE JUNKET FOR TWO MONTHS WHILE THIS CITY GOES THROUGH HELL...

...AND THEN YOU COME BACK AND WRITE THIS WEIRD ANTI-SUPERMAN THING?

AND I SUDDENLY REALIZE LOIS LANE IS BACK, ONE HUNDRED PERCENT.

FREE OF BRAINIAC'S INFLUENCE.

AND FREE OF ANY MEMORY OF MY SECRET IDENTITY.



CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?

I...YOU... YOU READ THAT?

YES, I READ IT!

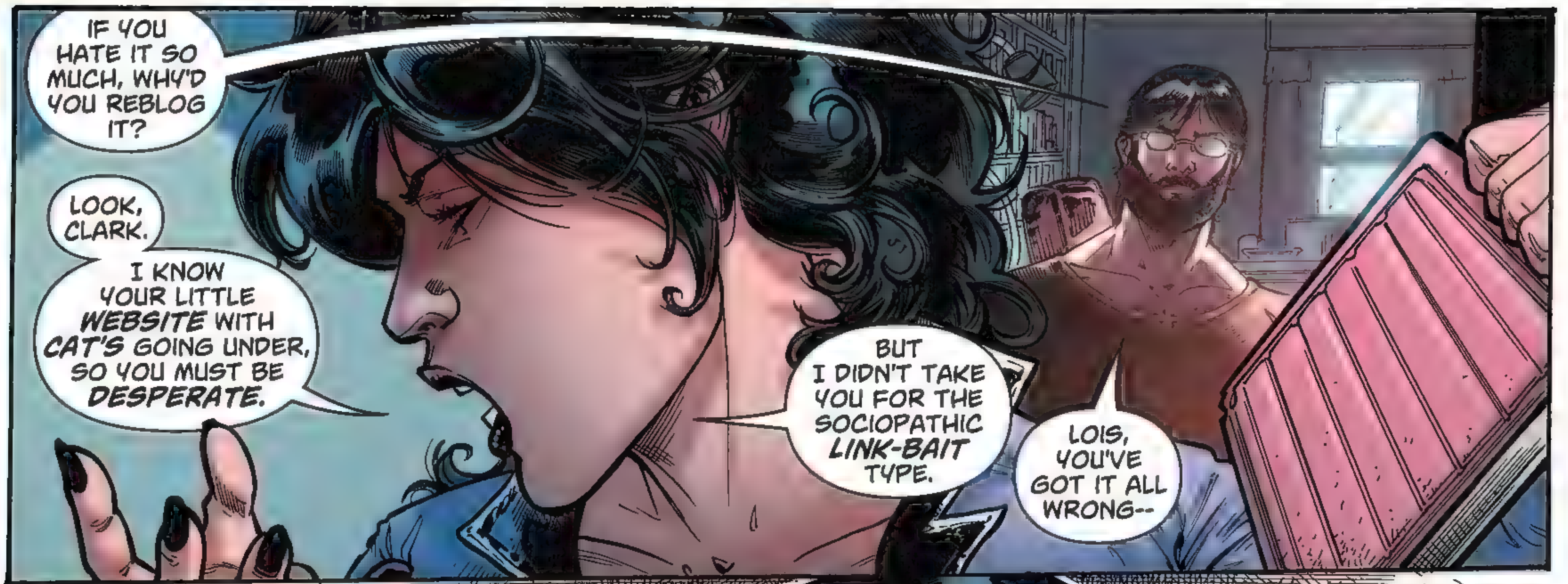
AND SINCE I REBLOGGED IT, TEN THOUSAND MORE PEOPLE HAVE SHARED IT!



THIS... KENT.

YES, MR. LUTHOR?

I'M STARTING TO...LIKE HIM.



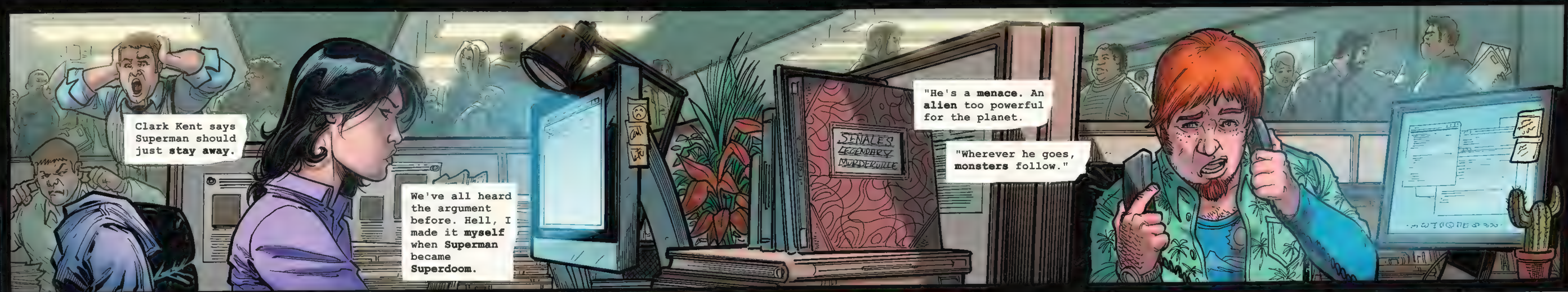
OH, YEAH?

THEN YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND SUPERMAN AT ALL.

SHE STARES AT ME WITH THOSE FIERCE, ANGRY EYES.

...AND I FEEL LIKE I'VE LOST AND FOUND MY BEST FRIEND IN THE SAME INSTANT.





Clark Kent says Superman should just stay away.

We've all heard the argument before. Hell, I made it myself when Superman became Superdooom.

"He's a menace. An alien too powerful for the planet."

"Wherever he goes, monsters follow."



Of course, Superman has this lovely tendency to fly in and save the day.

But so does the new kid, Baka, the monster child from Subterranea who prevented the Supremacists from taking over downtown Metropolis in the immediate aftermath of the Brainiac invasion.

And what about John Corben, a.k.a. Metal Zero, the war hero turned machine who's stood guard atop the Daily Planet building for the past sixty days?



And Supergirl...

...and Ghost Soldier and Martian Manhunter...

...and who knows how many other superheroes who have stepped up to save the day, every day, since he's been gone.

In other words, the argument goes...

...we're covered.

We don't need Superman.

THAT'S RIGHT, LOIS.

YOU'RE DOING JUST FINE--

But did you ever stop to think, Clark Kent...

...about whether
Superman needs
us?

You like to
call him an
alien.

But this is where
he belongs.

I see him every day in every
person out there on the street,
trying to make things better.

But that's not just
about him inspiring
us.

That's about us
showing him the
way.



Every one of us has the
capacity to do the worst
things imaginable. And
sometimes we do.

But the **astounding**
thing is how often
we humans do the
very **opposite**.

I don't
know where
Superman
is.

But he
better get
his butt
back home.

Because he
needs to
see this.

HEY,
CLARK. IT'S
ME, LANA.

I DON'T
KNOW IF YOU
CAN HEAR
ME...

...BUT I
READ YOUR
ARTICLE.

AND
I DON'T CARE
WHAT LOIS
SAYS.

YOU WERE
RIGHT.

YOU...YOU
MIGHT JUST
BE A LITTLE TOO
MUCH FOR THIS
WORLD.

WE
CAN'T...
I CAN'T...

...I CAN'T
JUST KEEP
STUMBLING ALONG,
EXPECTING TO BE
SAVED.

LOIS
THINKS WE'RE ALL
AMAZING.

BUT THIS WORLD
IS *INSANE*. TERRIBLE
THINGS ARE GOING TO
COME FOR US, AGAIN
AND AGAIN.

AND IF YOU
KEEP *SAVING* US,
WE'RE GOING TO
GET *WEAK*.

AND
THEN WE'RE
GONNA GET
DEAD.

BECAUSE
NOT EVEN
SUPERMAN...CAN
LIVE UP TO BEING
SUPERMAN.

MAYBE IT
REALLY IS TIME
FOR YOU TO
JUST...

CLARK?



DC COMICS
PROUDLY PRESENTS:

SUPERMAN^{IN} AFTER DOOMED

GREG PAK WRITER
SCOTT KOLINS AND VICENTE CIFUENTES ARTISTS
WIL QUINTANA COLORIST
CARLOS M. MANGUAL LETTERER
AARON KUDER AND WIL QUINTANA COVER
NEAL ADAMS AND ALEX SINCLAIR MONSTER VARIANT COVER
ASSISTANT EDITOR ANTHONY MARQUES
GROUP EDITOR EDDIE BERGANZA
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

NEXT:
THE **HORROR** OF
SMALLVILLE!



SUPER-TREATS

Okay, so as November rolls around and Americans are looking to gather around the table to feast upon turkey, stuffing and sweet potatoes, I look at the offering we have cooked up for the Superman books, and I gotta say, we have quite a spread.

But first a treat in late October with **SUPERMAN #35** where we have an alternate version of pages 8-9 by John Romita Jr., Klaus Janson and Laura Martin. Here, Geoff Johns has written a scene in which our heroes Kal-El and his new partner Ulysses go out to stop the guy currently making their lives hell: the Machinist. A simple scene in words that J.R. brought to life in two ways and could not decide which one was best, and honestly, neither could I. Sure we picked one for the book,

but I felt the power he showed in this one had to be seen. So here it is! (And you're not gonna wanna miss any part of the "Men of Tomorrow" storyline as it continues...TRUST ME.)

Now in November there's **ACTION COMICS #36**, we have Greg Pak, Aaron Kuder and Wil Quintana showing us the post-"Doomed" life for Clark in the haunted place that his hometown of Smallville has become.

Meanwhile, **SUPERMAN/WONDER WOMAN #13**, which has the new team of Peter Tomasi and Doug Mahnke taking over the power couple's lives and throwing some real big bads into the mix! Very spicy!

SUPERGIRL#36 also gets a new voice with K. Perkins as co-writer along with Mike Johnson, who

wrote the series when Kara debuted in the New 52. They look to school the former Red Lantern as she becomes part of the Crucible Academy, where the students' survival is not guaranteed. Also attending is the super-woman Maxima, who is beautifully re-designed by series penciller Emanuela Lupacchino! This is all topped off with Ray McCarthy's inks and Hi-Fi colors.

And our final treat is **BATMAN/SUPERMAN** with new art team Ardian Syaf, Sandra Hope and Ulises Arreola joining writer Greg Pak to ask the very simple question: Who is Superman's Joker?

So are you ready for some Kryptonian cuisine? It's all ready to serve now, and you'll be thankful that you tried it.

—EDDIE BERGANZA
Super-Chef

▲ **SUPERMAN #35**
Unused art by John Romita Jr.,
Klaus Janson and Laura Martin

IN STORES
NOVEMBER 2014

THE FLASH



When Central City CSI investigator Barry Allen is struck by lightning in a freak particle accelerator accident, he awakens after nine months in a coma to discover something extraordinary: he has gained the power to travel at speeds far beyond that of a normal person, transforming him into the Fastest Man Alive. Taking a cue from his friend and ally — the Starling City hero known as Arrow — Barry now uses his superhuman abilities to help protect the people of Central City from

THE FLASH
premieres Tuesday,
Oct. 7 at 8/7c, on



a rogues gallery of villains — many from across the DC Universe. And this fall, he's racing onto television screens across the nation in the all-new television series *The Flash*!

We got a chance to check out the pilot episode of the upcoming series and it got us so pumped up, we were running around in circles just to try and burn off all the excitement. It didn't work though 'cause there was just way too much of it. Our favorite thing about the show is the Flash himself: actor Grant Gustin. Arrow fans got a sampling of Gustin's portrayal of the character during a two-episode story arc featuring a pre-Flash Barry Allen before to his infamous accident — giving viewers a nerdy, excitable, and instantly likeable everyday guy with the heart of a hero.

In *The Flash*, Gustin kicks it up a notch as Barry's exuberance and energy brings a level of fun to the character that immediately makes you want to root for him. In fact, all the actors give stellar performances — from Tom Cavanagh as tech genius Harrison Wells to Jesse L. Martin as Barry's father figure Detective Joe West, and more. Along with the acting (and very awesome effects), the series really blew us away with the multitude of comic book references and Easter Eggs that should get comic fans incredibly excited and newcomers pleasantly intrigued. It definitely got us ready for what's sure to be a stellar run.



Watch the DC All Access Webseries that takes you inside DC Entertainment!

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